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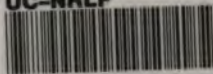
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THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Tract Society.

PRESENTED AT NEW YORK,

32
1857
new

MAY 13, 1857.

PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

1857.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE SOCIETY.

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

COMMUNICATIONS pertaining to the Publishing and Foreign departments may be addressed to Rev. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, *Corresponding Secretary*, etc.

Those pertaining to the departments of Finance, Colportage, Distribution, and Christian coöperation, to Rev. O. EASTMAN, *Corresponding Secretary*, etc.

Those covering remittances of Funds and ordering Publications, to Mr. O. R. KINGSBURY, *Assistant Secretary*, (or *Assistant Treasurer*,) etc. Drafts for dues will also be issued in the name of Mr. Kingsbury, and drafts containing remittances should be drawn in his favor.

Articles for insertion in the American Messenger and Child's Paper may be addressed to Rev. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, Editor.

All communications may be addressed to either of the above, or to *The Secretaries of the American Tract Society*, No. 150 Nassau-street, New York.

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THE Society are collecting a Library, to which additions of books of reference, and all valuable ancient or modern works, will be gratefully received.

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I GIVE and bequeath to "THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY," instituted in the city of New York, the sum of —— Dollars, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

THIRTY-SECOND
A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY;

CONTAINING LISTS OF

AUXILIARIES AND LIFE DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS,

CONSTITUTED SUCH DURING THE YEAR.

PRESENTED AT NEW YORK,

MAY 13, 1857.

PRINTED BY THE
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

OFFICERS, ELECTED MAY 13, 1857.

PRESIDENT.

Hon. THOMAS S. WILLIAMS, LL. D., late Chief-Justice of Connecticut.

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	Elected.		Elected.
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Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., New York	1850	Hon. Robert L. Caruthers, Lebanon, Tenn.	1856

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Rev. J. M. Stevenson	1857		Sam. E. Warner, Assist. Sec. for Colportage	1857

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Hon. Jeremiah Sullivan, Madison, Ind.	"	Rev. Edward Lathrop, D. D., New York	"

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Rev. John Knox, D. D.	1825	Rev. William Adams, D. D.	1851
Rev. David Magie, D. D., Elizabeth, N. J.	1848	Rev. Benjamin C. Cutler, D. D.	1853
Rev. William R. Williams, D. D.	"	Rev. Nehemiah Adams, D. D., Boston, Mass.	1854

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William Forrest	1831
William Winterton	1833
Alfred M. Tredwell	1853
Oliver H. Lee	1855
Alfred S. Barnes	1857

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Richard T. Haines	1825
Moses Allen	"
Thomas C. Doremus	1837
Richard S. Fellowes	1847
George N. Titus, Esq.	1848
Oliver E. Wood	1849

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THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF

The American Tract Society.

THE Society met at the Reformed Dutch church, Washington-square, New York, on Wednesday, May 13, 1857, at 9 o'clock, A. M., the President, Chief-Justice Williams of Connecticut, in the chair, supported by the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, former President, and Rev. Drs. Gardiner Spring, Thomas De Witt, and John S. Stone and William B. Crosby, Esq., Vice-Presidents. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Spring ; and the Rev. Dr. Knox, chairman of the Executive Committee, read a statement of the Society's history during the year, as given below.

The Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, chairman of the Special Committee of fifteen appointed by the Society at the last anniversary, then gave a brief history of the proceedings of that Committee, who assembled with a deep sense of responsibility, and were driven to the throne of grace for guidance, but who were brought to harmony of views, as would appear from the Report which he requested Judge Jessup, the secretary of that Committee, to present. That Report was then read by Judge Jessup, and printed copies presented to the audience, when, on motion of Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, seconded by Horace Holden, Esq., it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Report of the Special Committee be accepted and adopted by the Society.

It was further unanimously

Resolved, That the resolutions contained in the Report be adopted by the Society.

See the Report and Resolutions, page 225. The sixth resolution changes the last article of the Society's Constitution to read as follows :

"ARTICLE XI. This Constitution shall not be altered except at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present ; notice of the proposed alteration having been given at the previous annual meeting."

On motion of the Rev. Dr. De Witt, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the officers of the Society for the ensuing year be the same as the last year, except that Rev. Dr. John M. Stevenson of New Albany, Indiana, be elected one of the Corresponding Secretaries, in place of Rev. R. S. Cook, resigned; and that Mr. Samuel E. Warner be elected Assistant Secretary for Colportage.

At the suggestion of Rev. Dr. Knox, that the Society should unite in thanksgiving to God for the harmony which had prevailed, Rev. Dr. Thompson, at the call of the President, led the meeting in prayer; and after a short recess for a meeting of the Board of Directors to elect the Executive Committee, the Society proceeded to the usual public exercises of the anniversary.

The Treasurer's report, presented by Moses Allen, Esq., was approved; and an abstract of the Annual Report was read by Rev. Messrs. Hallock and Eastman, Secretaries, when the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted.

On motion of Rev. H. D. Ganse, of the Reformed Dutch church, New York; seconded by Hon. William Jessup of Montrose, Pa.

Resolved, That the Annual Report, an abstract of which has now been read, be adopted, and published under the direction of the Executive Committee; and that this meeting gratefully recognize the smiles of divine Providence in the extension and prosperity of the Society's labors during the year.

On motion of Rev. Hugh S. Carpenter, of the Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, N. Y.; seconded by Rev. John S. Stone, D. D., of the Protestant Episcopal church, Brookline, Mass.

Resolved, That thanks be rendered to God for the harmony which for thirty-two years has prevailed in the councils of the Committee and among the numerous laborers for the Society, in seeking the conversion of men through faith in Christ and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, as the divinely appointed means of rescuing sinners from the ruins of the fall, and conferring upon them the richest blessings for time and eternity.

On motion of Mr. Jonathan Cross, General Agent and Superintendent of Colportage in Virginia and North Carolina; seconded by Mr. John Potter, colporteur in Western Pennsylvania,

Resolved, That this meeting rejoice in the steadfast endeavor to penetrate the desolations of our beloved country, which has characterized the operations of this Society, especially in the work of Colportage; and that God has richly blessed these endeavors in innumerable ways, and to men in all conditions of life.

On motion of Dr. Divie Bethune McCartee, missionary of the General Assembly's Board at Ningpo, China; seconded by Rev. N. Aldrich, of the Evangelical Lutheran church, the Society's General Agent in South Carolina,

Resolved, That this meeting rejoice in the cordial coöperation of missionaries connected with our several respected Boards and denominations, in publishing the

gospel by the press and the living voice in heathen lands; and in like coöperation of evangelical Societies and individuals in papal and nominally Christian countries.

The Society then united in singing the 117th Psalm, and the services were closed by the Benediction, pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Knox.

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STATEMENT OF REV. DR. KNOX.

MR. PRESIDENT—The Executive Committee of the American Tract Society, in meeting their constituents on this the Thirty-second anniversary of the Society, are happy in being able to report, that by the blessing of God, the prosperity of the last year has been fully equal to that of any year which has preceded it.

Internal peace and harmony have attended all their doings; the contributions to the support of the institution have been liberal; its operations large, widely diffused, and effective; and cheering evidence of continued confidence on the part of the Christian community has been afforded.

As the result of laborious and persevering culture, under the Divine blessing, and as the growth of many years, the organization and capabilities of the institution have reached a high degree of advancement. A very large and increasing aggregate of evangelical truth of vital and universal importance, is embraced in the publications of the Society; and very effective agencies and facilities are arranged for its widest distribution throughout the whole of our own land, and throughout the world. God has signally owned and blessed its efforts. In the southern section of our country especially, the labors bestowed have never been greater, nor the evidence of spiritual and saving results more cheering, than during the last year.

Infirmity and imperfection attach to every thing human. Your Executive Committee, however, are conscious of having prayerfully, and according to the best of their judgment and ability, endeavored to exercise their great trust with all fidelity.

They are compelled ever to remember that the object of the association is *specific*, and its sphere *restricted*. This sphere is nevertheless ample, eminently important, and is practicable. Our prescribed constitutional office is, to issue and circulate *religious truth in which evangelical Christians are agreed*; embracing, therefore, whatever is most fundamental to salvation, and most vital in the common Christianity, but excluding every topic of a purely denominational character, and besides whatever else is matter of strife and distraction among evangelical Christians. The Society, by its elements, organization, and genius, is precluded *controversy*.

Its single object is to accomplish a work not otherwise to be so well done, if done at all, and which requires inward harmony and the confidence and coöperation of Christians around of every section and every name. If either this *harmony* or this *confidence* fails, it is shorn of its strength.

At the time of the last annual meeting of the Society, the Rev. Mr. Cook, one of its laborious, energetic, and accomplished secretaries, was suffering under disease and prostration. Subsequently, with his family, he repaired to Europe, where he still is, in the hope that by change and relaxation he might recover his health. This hope has been only partially realized, and recently he tendered the resignation of his office. His resignation, under the exigencies of the case, the Committee felt themselves reluctantly constrained to accept. In his absence they have appointed, as assistant secretary for colportage, Mr. Samuel E. Warner, a young gentleman for thirteen years connected with the institution, and who was associated with Mr. Cook in this department. The other secretaries have during the

year been preserved in health, and borne their increased responsibilities and toils with patient perseverance and successful devotion.

The importance of sustaining this great work—the embodiment of a true, practical “Christian alliance,” interfering with no denominational peculiarity, and yet promoting all denominational prosperity, the common auxiliary of every form of Christian effort—unimpaired, and if possible extended and improved, must be felt by every intelligent Christian mind and sanctified heart, and is earnestly commended to the candid and devout regards of all God’s people.

Your Committee have afforded to the Committee of Investigation, in prosecuting the object of their appointment, all the aids and facilities in their power.

That Committee, as is well known, had its origin mainly in a diversity of sentiment on the part of friends of the Society respecting its true relations to one of the most pervading and agitating subjects of the age. The Executive Committee look with great deference to the Report of this Committee which it is understood they are now ready to submit as the result of their investigation, and to the action of the Society thereon.

SKETCH OF THE ADDRESSES.

The Hon. Mr. FREELINGHUYSEN, chairman of the Special Committee, in presenting their Report, which would be read by their Secretary, Hon. William Jessup of Pennsylvania, referred to what he regarded as the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit during the prayerful deliberations of the committee, and said that, if ever men came together feeling how weak and dependent they were, he believed they did so. On the 17th of March ten of the committee met at the Tract-house, where they were received most cordially by the Executive Committee, who threw open to them every door to the investigation. After seeking divine counsel, it was proposed that each member should, in the first place, speak out his own sentiments freely. We thus, said he, had a confidential interchange of views, beginning with the person nearest to the chair, and around in order, concluding with the chairman. Each one spoke out fully and freely his own opinions and views. We were where we had a right to speak freely, and by the blessing of God each one ascertained for himself that that line upon which the Society had been operating for more than thirty years, was one upon which the committee, with all their diversities of opinion, could concur. If it had not been for the *business* operations of the Society, that were also committed to our investigation, in less than *two hours* those ten members of the committee would have concurred in such a report as would be presented to-day. This unanimity, said he, struck us all with delightful and overwhelming surprise. If the dew ever descended upon Hermon and the hills of Zion, it descended upon the committee at that meeting. After future interchange of thought and feeling, it was hoped the fifteen members would concur. One member, who had not enjoyed the privilege of this interchange, has sent word that he does not assent, but the remaining fourteen concur in the recommendations and resolutions of the Report.

Rev. Dr. THOMPSON, in moving the acceptance and adoption of the Report of the Special Committee, said he should have preferred that the motion should emanate from some one his senior in the ministry; but those whom he regarded as fathers, by their own suggestion, had overcome any scruple on that point. I am in no mood, he said, to criticize the phraseology of the Report or of the resolutions in any particular. I feel that the tender petition in the opening prayer has already been

answered of God in this Report, and that "our hearts are made buoyant with love, and our lips filled with thanksgiving," because of the wisdom and the grace which God has imparted to the committee in their deliberations. No words of mine can add any thing to the argument or statement of the Report. As an individual I like it, both upon its negative and its positive side—for that which it affirms the Tract Society cannot do, and for that which it affirms that it can and ought to do.

HORACE HOLDEN, Esq., said that he seconded the motion, not because he believed that every word in that Report would meet the approbation of every individual, but because he believed it would meet the approbation of the great audience, and of the great body of Christian men everywhere. He had had the means of noticing the solicitude and prayer with which the investigations of the committee had been conducted. The longer he lived, the more reason he found to distrust his own opinion, and to defer to the opinions of his brethren. He did not suppose, after the committee was appointed last year, that they would be able to frame a report which would be entirely satisfactory, although he believed that if any committee could do it, that committee could. He had too much deference for that committee to take objection to the phraseology of any part of the report. No other body of men could have been chosen who would have rendered a more acceptable service. What they had done had been done in the fear of God. He most heartily seconded the report, and hoped it would be adopted without a dissenting voice.

The Rev. Dr. DE WITT, in moving the election of officers for the year, said he had listened with a full heart to the happy expression of united feeling which had just been given. He acknowledged it with thankfulness, in behalf of the committee of which he had been a humble member. He spoke of his early connection with the Society, and of the interest and even solicitude with which he had ever since watched its progress. He had great love for such an institution, uniting as it does members of all Christian denominations on a common platform, for the diffusion of evangelical truth among men. God's blessing, he said, has rested upon the Society; and although some of its friends may have felt and feared for it; although clouds and storms may have arisen, yet he could now see the bow of promise—the emblem and pledge of peace and security. He thought that the scrutiny which had been made into the business affairs of the Society would serve only to commend it to the increased confidence of the Christian community. He well remembered that, as he and the lamented Summerfield, both of whom were permitted to take part in the hallowed exercises at the formation of this Society, sat beside each other, Mr. Summerfield said to him that he believed God would bless this institution as a powerful means of cementing the hearts of his people of every name and in all parts of our beloved country.

ADDRESS OF REV. MR. GANSE OF NEW YORK.

This cannot seem to any of us, Mr. President, quite like an ordinary anniversary of the American Tract Society. We are in a *new place*. The old dome of the Tabernacle is not over us, and the strong friendly old columns are not around us. Those who have the honor to address you, lack something of that background of venerable forms and faces which went farther than eloquence in giving interest to the scene.

But what is more important, we are in the midst of *new times*. I am sure no friend of this Society crossed the threshold of this church this morning without feeling his heart beat with an unaccustomed anxiety; and I am sure there is no such heart in all this assemblage, that does not beat quietly and joyfully now. As

the vote was taken a few moments ago upon the report of the committee, and the unanimous "aye" went up from the whole crowded congregation, I heard a venerable looking man who stood near me exclaim, "Laus Deo!" Yes, praise to God for such a result so promptly and harmoniously reached. It proves what I never doubted, that the American Tract Society has no enemies within her bosom; that in all the warmth of discussion and debate, there was the sincere desire of honest minds to unite upon that which should be wisest and best. And now we know we are friends, with love for each other and love for the cause, and love for God, and what is best, with the great love of God over all. We have nothing to do but to work on together, with better courage and unto better success.

And in what a work are we engaged. We listened with delight to the statements which were just made by the secretaries. I shall not attempt to review all the ground occupied by their reports; but there are one or two items of which we may well think for a moment. It is pleasant to know that the receipts of the Society for the past year have exceeded the receipts of the last year. But I have noticed with most interest the amount of matter which it has thrown into circulation. We are told in the abstract printed upon the programme, that the issues of the Society for the year now closed have fallen but little short of three hundred millions of pages; and that its aggregate issues since its formation have reached the enormous total of *four thousand millions*. Why, these are like astronomical figures—four thousand millions! If you could divide this gross amount into four-page tracts, you should have one of them for every human being breathing on the face of the earth. I know indeed that many of those pages are long since destroyed; many of them were never faithfully read. But what shall we say of the institution which from its own resources brings forth such a supply? I will not say of such a Society that the blessing of God is upon it. It is God's blessing in the concrete. We have heard to-day of the founders of this Society. Sir, man never founded it. God founded it. It grows out of the nature and necessities of our Christian religion and Christian church. And the venerable men who saw its beginnings—(blessings on their hoary heads that are here to-day to witness its progress)—only stood by while God laid its stones with fair colors. And since he has founded it, it shall stand. Consider how necessary an office it discharges.

God has different means of communicating religious truth. The chief is his word, his pure word, just as he inspired it. This he kept safely through so many generations until this age should come, in which the press can scatter the sacred volumes almost without limit. The light which comes from this word, I might call the clear white ray. But God has other means of reaching men's hearts. He suffers the clear light of his truth to pass through the prism of human experience, and thus to be divided up into all its tints of human sympathy. Thus he appoints the living preacher, who shall show God's truth as it passes through a man's mind and heart and lips. For the same reason, he sustains the living Christian church and Christian household.

I need not say how winning and instructive and encouraging the truth of God becomes when it is thus interpreted in an earnest, loving, Christian life. In some particular every such life differs from all others, and it may be counted in a lower sense a kind of particular revelation of the gospel—an epistle of Christ written by the Holy Spirit in the fleshly table of a heart. We might conceive of a condition of things in which each of these living manifestations of the gospel should limit its influence to its particular observers, and then pass away and be forgotten; and even then their influence should not be small, for God has a wealth of pious examples, and he scatters them freely. You may find them all over the land, in the humblest dwellings and in the grandest, in town and country, in every department

of business and science. How few are there in a land like ours who are not brought into contact with a Christian life. But it is a great thing gained if the features of each marked Christian intellect and heart can be fixed and preserved and reduplicated, so that the whole world in every land and age can know what thoughts and feelings and acts the grace of God produced in that instance. Your cabinet indeed should never be complete; but as example should be added to example, the "way of the Spirit" should grow plainer and plainer, and every phase of character should find some illustration of its own wants and of the means of supplying them. Just this office, sir, your Society is discharging. It is doing for these particular manifestations of divine grace what the Bible Society is doing for the parent revelation. They print and scatter the text, and you print and scatter the great living commentary. And if their work is of God, so is yours.

No man can calculate the power which such an agency is wielding. As your colporteur enters a dwelling, he is not one man, but twenty men—as many men as he has books in his basket. And they are not dead men either. His living face and sympathy and prayers impart to them a fresh vitality, which they could not have had without him. He leaves behind him mere books while they are closed; but the covers are lifted, and they open like alabaster-boxes of ointment, and the fragrance fills the dwelling.

In the discharge of such a work you are, as the report of your Executive Committee intimated, the coadjutors of every Christian effort. If a parent would lead a child to God, she exerts indeed the influence of her prayers and example; but she teaches him his first hymns out of your "Songs for Little Ones," and early places in his hands the pages of Doddridge, or Bunyan, or Baxter. If a pastor would place in the hands of an inquirer or of an invalid a book that shall teach him in the plainest and most moving words what salvation he needs, and how he shall seek it, he resorts naturally to the publications of your Society. The Sabbath-school teacher does the same, and the missionary the same. Sir, the obstruction of your operations would be like a dearth. Every plant in the garden of the Lord would feel it.

But the work shall go forward in city and country, over all our land, and over all the world. I rejoice again in the action of this day. I know indeed that it is easy to vote, and that doing comes afterwards; but a union like that of to-day, so complete, so hearty, so prayerful, pledges God's blessing. The work shall go on. And to what shall it grow? Out of what a field shall this Society gather up the treasures that shall make glad the nations? God shall perform no signal work of grace in a human heart that may not become material for you. We shall pass away, but the Society shall live; and whatever is instructive, or persuasive, or comforting in all the range of pious thought and feeling, offers itself to you as so much new power in the mighty progress. Infidelity and vice have no motive thus to save and multiply their examples. It is only the love of God and of souls that can combine men in such a work as this; and it is only the grace of God triumphing over human depravity and fear, that produces those examples of holy thought and feeling that will bear to be held up for love and imitation. Thus the energy is on the side of holiness. And it is pleasant to think that as the church grows older, more and more of these lights of piety, that fade away from the earth, shall be set by your Society in a firmament from which they shall not fade, and where all can see them. Bunyan, and Baxter, and Flavel, and Hall, and Jay, and hundreds more are there already. The constellations shall grow; the heavens shall be thick with them; and their sweet influences shall fall upon the whole earth. For a destiny and a work like this, I believe your Society is appointed. "God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved. God shall help her, and that right early."

JUDGE JESSUP'S ADDRESS.

Judge Jessup, who was the Secretary of the Society's Special Committee, said the Society stood on the confidence of the public, and if that should be lost it would fall. The Tract Society had recently been undergoing a scrutiny which was made into all the proceedings of everybody and every thing connected with it; and the report so unanimously adopted, showed that the confidence of the public was not wrongfully bestowed. The Society had undergone a close scrutiny, and had come out of it like gold tried and purified seven times in the fire. He would say that the committee had perfect confidence in all that the Society had done; it came out to-day challenging comparison with any other religious society in the world. All its business affairs are so well managed and so carefully conducted, that contributors may rest assured that all the dollars, and cents, and hundreds given, will go to the proper purposes of the Society. He would say, from his position on the committee, that the financial concerns of the Society were unimpeachably transacted.

Judge Jessup then spoke of The Child's Paper; considering that, if the Tract Society had done no more than print that one publication, they would have done a work which would show that its funds had been well expended. To-day the American Tract Society came before the public with new claims, asking for means to carry on the work to a greater extent. No one could read the reports of the colporteurs without rejoicing that God had put it into the hearts of the Society to begin and go on with this great work.

ADDRESSES OF MR. CROSS AND MR. POTTER.

Rarely has the Society listened to addresses of deeper interest than the statements of these two long-tried and devoted laborers in the colporteur service. The deep emotions of the audience, awakened by their tender and striking narratives, were manifested in many tears, even from grey-headed clergymen and laymen, who rejoiced that in our darkest desolations the gospel is made the power of God unto salvation to precious souls.

More than twelve years ago these two speakers were raised up within a few miles of each other, in a destitute part of Western Pennsylvania, to labor by Sabbath-schools and other means to win the young and old to Christ. Both, by the grace of God, were self-made colporteurs, when they were found by this Society and enlisted in its service, to which their subsequent lives have been devoted with unwearied fidelity and rich fruits to the praise of divine grace. The views they presented of the adaptation of the colporteur work to preach the gospel to the poor, and the illustrations they gave in the history of those who had become faithful servants of Christ and even heralds of the cross, whom they themselves had found in the obscurest corners—found rough, misshapen, in the quarry, but who had become polished stones in Christ's spiritual building, as they will be gems in his crown of rejoicing for ever—were most animating, and formed an argument that reached every heart for urging forward this work of God, till all the destitute of our country shall be reached and blessed by it.

 See addresses of Rev. Mr. Carpenter and Dr. McCartee, page 245.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

HARMONY in diffusing so much of God's glorious truth, doctrinal and practical, as his redeemed people would be agreed in, was the key-note of this Society in its organization, to fulfil in some degree the Saviour's prayer "that they all may be one," to encourage Christians in duty by united action, and gain the more ready access to the needy; and through divine grace it has reigned in all the acts of the Executive, the Publishing, the Distributing, and the Finance Committees for thirty-two years, no act of either Committee having been carried into effect that was not unanimous. The parent Religious Tract Society in London, for twenty-six years from 1799 to 1825, had given the Christian world an example of harmony; it had prevailed in the American Tract Society at Boston, for eleven years from 1814 to 1825, and has continued in the Committees of the three Societies till the present hour. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity . . . for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." This divine declaration has been fulfilled, with lowly self-abasement and grateful praise be it spoken, in the peace and joy which have reigned in the hearts of the members of the Committee in their toils and counsels and prayers; and in their efforts being made effectual in winning benighted souls, "condemned already," to our dying, reigning Redeemer and Lord, beyond the expectations of the most sanguine in laying the Society's foundations. Never was its work more efficient and promising of good, especially in Colportage, north, south, east, and west, than at the present hour. To Him who reigns king in Zion would the Committee still commit the precious interests of this institution.

The lives of all the officers of the Society have been spared the past year. One beloved member of the Executive Committee, the youngest of their number, Mr. RICHARD M. JESUP, a Christian merchant, died in New York, on Sabbath, January 25, at the age of thirty. He was born November 24, 1826, in Westport, then Saugatuck, Conn. On the decease of his father, his mother with her children moved to the city; and this son, when about fifteen, united with the Canal-street Presbyterian church, of which Rev. Dr. Richard W. Dickinson was pastor. He soon transferred his relations to the Reformed Dutch church in Ninth-street, and after a few years to the church of the Puritans, on Union Square, where he was superintendent of the Sabbath-school and a member of the church committee. His Christian life was one of prayerfulness, self-denying activity, meek persevering endeavors for the good of men, especially the young, and in all the various relations he sustained, he was endeared to the pastors and people of God. With his brother Frederick, of kindred spirit, who died in October last, he persevered for some years in sustaining a Sabbath morning prayer-meeting, and one hour of the same day he set apart for prayer in his own retirement.

In September, 1855, he was unanimously elected a member of the Committee of the American Tract Society, with whom he delighted to act, often speaking of them in his family, expressing the hope that he should so live as to meet them in heaven, and delighting in the evangelical works the Society issued and its varied means of usefulness. Having been requested to consent to act on the Committee, he replied in a brief note:

"It was a subject of earnest prayer with me yesterday (the Sabbath) and since, and all I can say is, that if the call is one of *God's Spirit* to me, my heart would and will cheerfully and willingly respond. I desire to do what I can for Christ, and am only anxious to act in accordance with his guidance. My fear is, that my abilities are not commensurate with the faithful discharge of the duties to be fulfilled; still, I cannot refuse to go where God would have me, and if He lead me with you, I can only follow and trust Him for grace and strength." "Youthful in experience as well as years," he said on accepting the appointment, "I shall often need the counsel, and always the prayers, of those who have labored so long and faithfully in this noble department of the common vineyard; and I feel assured, from the kindness and sympathy already expressed, that I shall not need to ask for either." The state of his health compelling him to leave the city at the opening of the last summer, he wrote, "The

precious interests of our Society will ever have a prominent place in my affections and in my feeble prayers, and I have to ask the favor that I may have occasionally a place in your petitions at the throne of grace. Permit me to express to my associates on the Committee my warm affection, and gratitude too, for the delightful seasons spent with them in the furtherance of our blessed work."

It is proper also to record the death of the Rev. ELI SMITH, D. D., for twenty years the Society's faithful correspondent in Syria, a summary view of whose labors is given in the notice of the Society's operations in that country; and the death of the Rev. RICHARD KNILL, who for many years cordially coöperated with the Society in St. Petersburg, Russia, and was the author of no less than nine of the Society's tracts.

Rev. Mr. Knill closed his earthly labors at Chester, England, January 2, at the age of 69. Few men have consecrated a life of such efficiency and usefulness to the service of Christ.

Having studied at college, he entered the Gosport Missionary Academy, where "he was ever foremost in holding meetings in the cottages of the poor, in kitchens, in barns, by the wayside, in the public streets, anywhere where the people would assemble." In 1815, at the age of twenty-eight, he went out as a missionary to Madras, but his health sinking under the climate of India, he returned to England; and in 1820, took charge of the English church at St. Petersburg, Russia, where he labored incessantly for thirteen years, receiving from the Emperor Alexander many tokens of esteem.

Returning to England in 1834, for eight years he travelled among the churches as an advocate of the London Missionary Society. "His addresses were remarkable for sincerity and power; his eloquence was the language of intense feeling. All admired, sympathized, and were moved." In 1842 he became pastor of the church at Wotton, where Rowland Hill had previously labored; and in 1847 was settled as the successor of Matthew Henry at Chester, where he labored till his death, the church having been increased fourfold. In the winter of 1853, he preached every afternoon in the old theatre in Chester, which was filled in every part, and continued to be thronged; and in 1855 he formed a plan for preaching in every market-place in the county of Cheshire. "More than a hundred preachers were converted under his preaching, most of whom are now occupying dissenting pulpits, or engaged in the missionary work."

Besides all his labors as a preacher and missionary, the tracts written by him are supposed to have had a wider circulation than

those of any other man. "Between six and seven millions of them have been printed in England, and more than seven millions in the United States; and some of them have been translated into ten different languages, and thus scattered over the world."

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.

During the year the following 179 new publications have been stereotyped in English, German, French, Italian, and Swedish, of which 27 are volumes; making the whole number of publications now on the Society's list 2,229, of which 448 are volumes of larger or smaller size. Besides these, the Committee have approved to be issued at foreign stations 163 publications, including 49 volumes; making the whole number now approved for publication abroad 3,218, of which 370 are volumes.

IN THE GENERAL ENGLISH SERIES.

No.	Pages.
556 Margaret, the Bayman's Wife. By Rev. J. H. Ingraham, Mobile, Ala.	8
557 The Poorest of the Poor. By Miss Susan Wheelwright, Newburyport, Mass.	8
558 The Soldier. By Rev. John Gray, Cicero, N. Y.	8
559 The Sailor and his little Book. By Rev. John Gray, Cicero, N. Y.	8
560 The Power of the Bible. By Rev. Tryon Edwards, D. D., New London, Conn.	4
561 The Sinner at the Judgment Speechless. By Rev. Lewis H. Reid, Fayetteville, N. Y.	4
562 I've Attended to Everything but my Soul. By Mr. Jonathan Cross, Gen. Agent, Richmond, Va.	4
563 The Bible, and the Bible Alone. By Rev. Charles Mann, Gloucester C. H., Va.	4
564 Sambo and Toney. A Dialogue. Originally published by Rev. Edmund Botsford, minister in Georgia and South Carolina.	20
565 Charles Atwell; or, the Ruinous Effects of Sabbath Receptions. By Rev. Enoch Pond, Prof. Theological Seminary, Bangor, Me.	16
566 I do not Feel. By Rev. E. Davies Fendall, Moorestown, N. J.	4
567 Seek, and Ye shall Find. By Rev. Albert Amerman, Hackensack, N. J.	8

OCCASIONAL SERIES.

29 Letter from a Shipmaster to his Sailor Son.	8
30 Proof from the Prophecies that the Messiah must have Come. By a Clergyman of the Church of England.	24

HANDBILLS.

93 Will You Go?	
94 Abide with Us.	
95 Fulness of Jesus.	
96 "There is Another Man."	
97 "Jehovah Taidkenu," The Lord our Righteousness.	
98 The Need of Jesus	

99 The Child's Wish.	
100 Test Questions for Inquirers.	
FORTY-EIGHT HANDBILLS BY REV. J. C. RYLE, OR "SEED CORN."	
101 Think.	
102 Your Soul.	
103 You are in Danger.	
104 What are We?	
105 What Do We Need?	
106 What has Sin Done?	
107 In What Do You Trust?	
108 What is Your Hope?	
109 Are You in the Way?	
110 The Beginning.	
111 Christ is Willing.	
112 What is He Like?	
113 Something for Everybody.	
114 Found Dead.	
115 The great Change.	
116 Who is Your Father?	
117 What is Salvation?	
118 Are You a Saint?	
119 What must You Do?	
120 Have You Heard the Good News?	
121 Are You Tired?	
122 Are You Converted?	
123 Shall You be One?	
124 You don't Know?	
125 Why not To-day?	
126 But When?	
127 Only Try.	
128 Give God his Day.	
129 You must Pray.	
130 Go and Pray.	
131 Excuses.	
132 Do You Read It?	
133 Do You Love your Bible?	
134 Join the Church.	
135 Come to Christ.	
136 The Treasury.	
137 The Right Way.	
138 Seek Riches.	
139 A Lasting Peace.	
140 Hospitals and Asylums.	
141 The Bar of Justice.	
142 The Eyes of God.	
143 Little Sins.	
144 The Two Systems.	

- 145 Don't be Afraid.
 146 Don't Laugh.
 147 A Happy Man.
 148 The Last Enemy.
 149 All is Known to Thee.

18MO SERIES OF TRACTS.

- Deity and Atonement of Jesus Christ. By a Lady of Georgia.
 Your Soul—Is it Safe? By Henry Welsford, author of Lights and Shadows of Spiritual Life.
 The Christian's Inheritance. By Rev. Ira Tracy, Missionary to China, now at Spring Valley, Minnesota.
 Religion in Common Life. By Rev. John Caird of Errol, Scotland. Stereotyped by donation of John W. Hamersley, New York
 Illustrated Family Christian Almanac for 1857. Prepared by Rev. Tryon Edwards, D. D., New London, Conn.
 German Illustrated Family Christian Almanac for 1857. Chiefly prepared by Rev. H. Garlich, Brooklyn

VOLUMES.

- The Family Bible, with brief Notes and Instructions, completed in one volume. Also the same in 3 volumes.
 Morning Exercises. By Rev. William Jay. Recast in large type, 8vo.
 Burder's Village Sermons. By Rev. George Burder, London. In large type, 8vo.
 Sketches from Life. Narratives selected by Rev. Joseph Belcher, D. D., from the American Messenger. 12mo.
 Life of Rev. George Whitefield. Compiled by Rev. Joseph Belcher, D. D., Philadelphia. 12mo.
 Practical Truths. By Rev. Archibald Alexander, D. D., late Prof. Theol. Sem., Princeton, N. J. 12mo.

18MO VOLUMES.

- The Bible Primer, Part III. The Prophets. By Miss Frances M. Caulkins, New London, Conn.
 Why do I Live? By Rev. Thomas Smyth, D. D., Charleston, S. C.
 Memoir of Mrs. E. R. Bradley. By Miss Nancy Bradley, Clinton, N. Y.
 The Pilgrim Boy. A narrative of Facts. By an anonymous Author.
 No Pains, No Gains. Written by Mrs. H. C. Knight, Portsmouth, N. H., from the Life of Samuel Budgett, Bristol, Eng.
 Faithful Ellen. An authentic Narrative. By an anonymous Author.
 The Farmer and his Family. By the late Rev. Richard Knill, Chester, Eng.
 Glimpses of Life in Africa. By Mrs. Anna M. Scott of the Episcopal Mission at Cape Palmas.
 Bishop Watson's Reply to Paine.

- Soame Jenyns' Internal Evidence 100
 Lyttelton's Conversion of St. Paul 112

FOR THE YOUNG. 16MO, 84 SQUARE.

- That Sweet Story of Old. By Mrs. Mary A. Lathrop, Brockport, N. Y.
 Rosa, the Little Cousin from India. From the London Tract Society.
 The Little Lamb. From the London Tract Society.
 Charlotte Elizabeth's Short Stories for Children, with numerous Engravings. 32mo.
 Summary of Scripture Truth in Scripture Language. By Rev. William Brown, Edinburgh, Scotland. 32mo.
 A Child's Primer, taken from "The New England Primer." 32mo.

CHILDREN'S SERIES, ILLUSTRATED.

SERIES II., 32MO, 16 PAGES EACH.

- 119 Johnny Latham.
 120 The Hermit Child.
 122 The Simple made Wise.
 123 The Little Donkey-drivers.
 124 The Red Apple.
 125 How Could I Wrong You So?
 126 Neddy's Repentance.
 127 The Snow-ball.
 128 A New Heart.

SERIES III., 18MO, 16 PAGES EACH.

- 41 Samuel, a Converted Malabar.
 42 The Sea-Captain's Two Daughters.

SERIES IV., 18MO, 32 PAGES EACH.

- 57 The Wanderer.
 58 The Little Picture.
 59 The Outcast from China, etc
 60 Children's Tricks.
 61 The Morning-Glory.
 62 The Indian's Revenge.
 63 Blind Willie.
 64 Araminta's Love to her School-mates.

Fifty-four Picture Cards, Packet II., No. 55-108.

VOLUME IN GERMAN.

- Vol. 5 of D'Aubigné's History of the Reformation. 12mo.

GERMAN SERIES OF TRACTS.

- 129 What is Christianity? Ger.

FRENCH VOLUME.

- Evangelical Hymns. 12mo.

ITALIAN SERIES OF TRACTS.

- 8 Christian Truths 24
 9 The Ten Commandments 4

SWEDISH VOLUME.

- Come to Jesus. 18mo.

APPROVED FOR FOREIGN STATIONS.

Publications 163, of which 49 are volumes.

The Family Bible complete, with brief Notes and Instructions, and Maps and Tables, "designed to give the results of critical investigation, and to assist common readers to understand the meaning of the Holy Spirit in the inspired word," including the references and marginal readings of the Polyglot Bible, has just been issued in one volume, and the same will be issued in three volumes, and also the New Testament and Psalms in a separate volume. This work, to

which the Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D., devoted four years of prayerful labor, was carried by him through the New Testament, which was issued in 1851. He then began with Genesis, and had completed the first volume of the Old Testament to the end of Job, and was proceeding with the Psalms, when he rested from his labors. His friend Professor E. P. Barrows completed the Psalms, and continued the work through the Old Testament; the whole having been carefully examined in the proof-sheets by members of the Publishing Committee, and sanctioned with entire unanimity. In this hurried age there are hundreds of thousands, especially heads of families, who feel the obligation daily and prayerfully to "search the Scriptures" for the benefit of themselves and their households, who find it difficult to command the time to read the larger commentaries; and to whom brief evangelical notes and instructions giving *the results* of investigation, without all the processes by which they are reached, or confusing the reader's mind by an array of questionable and conflicting theories, are invaluable. Parents who in family worship read a short portion, and seek so to call attention to it and explain it that it shall be understood, are thankful for brief notes giving a clue to the true meaning, and a few sentences of practical instruction prepared to their hand. This may perhaps be more especially true of the poetic, prophetic, and more obscure parts of the Bible, in which, from Psalms to Malachi, the ripe Hebrew scholarship of Professor Barrows, and his humble endeavor without display of learning to give common readers a clue to the true interpretation, will prove, it is believed, a blessing to many. One of the officers of the Society has read the comment throughout, both in the manuscript and in the proofs, and also gone through the whole in course in family worship, much to the refreshment of his own spirit and the comfort and benefit of the family circle. If it shall exert any influence to incite and aid others to read and understand the Scriptures, to God, who indited them, and by them sanctifies men to himself, be the praise.

BURDER'S FIFTY-TWO VILLAGE SERMONS, issued in one octavo volume, large type, are the sermons issued by Burder in his third edition of the Village Discourses, in which form it is now in circulation in England. In later editions he added forty-nine sermons more, making in all one hundred and one. There is an evangelical unction and gospel simplicity in these well-known sermons, which have rendered them long a familiar favorite in churches and families on both sides of the Atlantic.

JAY'S MORNING EXERCISES, which had been published by the So-

clety, are reprinted in large size and type from the author's last edition.

THE SKETCHES FROM LIFE, with engravings, consist of a choice selection of narratives from the American Messenger, which have been read with interest by thousands, and illustrate almost every phase of Christian character, and the operations of the Spirit.

THE LIFE OF WHITEFIELD has been compiled, with patient and diligent research, from all accessible sources of information, and it is believed will be an acceptable and timely gift to the Christian community. It is the more valuable as Whitefield was an honored instrument of "the great awakening" about the year 1740, in which Wesley, President Edwards, Brainerd, the Tennents, Doddridge, and others of precious memory, bore a distinguished part. The prominent truth in that great work of God, a truth then almost ignored, was, that man *must be born again* by the renewing and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, or perish. When Whitefield awoke to this truth at the time of his leaving the Oxford university, he was driven to the throne of grace, to the study of the Bible upon his knees, where the fire was kindled in him which blazed through Britain and America, and was rekindled in the hearts of hundreds of thousands. "Oh, what sweet communion," he says, "had I daily vouchsafed with God in prayer; how often have I been carried beyond myself; how assuredly I felt that Christ dwelt in me, and I in him; and how daily did I walk in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, and was edified and refreshed in the multitude of peace." "Upon this I had no rest in my soul till I wrote letters to my relations, telling them *there was such a thing as the NEW BIRTH*." The gospel was as "a burning fire shut up in his bones;" God had shown him his power in preaching his gospel, and the churches being closed against him, he resorted to the fields, embraced all opportunities, and for more than thirty years, from the time he first saw the marks of the tears on the cheeks of the Kingswood colliers, by whom he expected to have been stoned, until his death at Newburyport in 1770, at the age of 56, he probably addressed more souls, and was the means of the conversion of more sinners to God by the living voice, than any other man that has lived. It is testified of him, that often in the compass of a week he spoke forty hours, and that to thousands; and after his labors, instead of taking any rest, he was engaged in offering up prayers and intercessions, with hymns and spiritual songs, as his manner was, in every house in which he was invited." Thirteen times he crossed the Atlantic; and on both sides of the water hundreds and thousands hung

upon his lips, whether he was in London or other parts of England ; in Wales, Scotland, or Ireland ; in Georgia, or New Hampshire ; in Charleston, Philadelphia, New York, or Boston, or the country intervening. In many cases ten, and in some even twenty thousand listened to his impassioned appeals ; and fruits unto eternal life were gathered all along his course till he "he was not, for God took him."

PRACTICAL TRUTHS, by the Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander, whose high evangelical character needs no testimony, comprises about forty articles written in the latter years of his life, for the *American Messenger* ; seven standard tracts written by him for the Society's general series ; six small books written in simple style and issued in large type to gain the attention of common readers ; selections from his cheering correspondence with the Society ; and brief sketches of his life and character.

THE BIBLE PRIMER OF THE PROPHETS leads the reader to drink deep into the true spirit of the prophets, and though prepared for the young, gives the mature Christian "a feast of fat things."

WHY DO I LIVE? is a kind and ardent appeal, showing the true end of life, the duties of the Christian in the varied relations he sustains, and his encouragements and motives to fidelity ; with numerous rich and vivid illustrations drawn from the author's extensive reading, in poetry and prose. Stereotyped by the liberality of the author.

MRS. BRADLEY, a lady of fine talents who labored ten years in Siam, was an efficient missionary, and her correspondence abounds in facts of interest, while it breathes devoted piety, and consecration to her Master's work.

THE PILGRIM BOY is a striking narrative of the incidents in the life of an energetic lad who was thrown upon his own resources, and through many errors and hairbreadth 'scapes, became at length a useful man and an active Christian ; and like **NO PAINS NO GAINS**, sets before lads who would prosper in this life and be prepared for another, distinct way-marks for their course. **FAITHFUL ELLEN** gives the history of a colored child who was long a cherished inmate of one of the best Christian families. **THE FARMER AND HIS FAMILY** is the narrative of a proud worldly English farmer who, through the influence of a daughter, became a consistent and useful Christian. **THE GLIMPSES OF LIFE IN AFRICA** gives intelligence of the Africans, and the adaptation of the gospel to their temporal and spiritual wants ; and "**THAT SWEET STORY OF OLD**," as its title imports, gives the history of Jesus with great simplicity in a happy accordance with the Bible narrative.

CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH'S SHORT STORIES FOR THE YOUNG are well known in their general character, and this selection will be acceptable to many. The SUMMARY OF SCRIPTURE TRUTH, being a judicious selection of Scripture passages on the great practical topics of revelation, cannot but be beneficial so far as carefully read and studied, or committed to memory.

Watson's Reply to Paine, Soame Jenyns' Internal Evidence, and Lyttelton's Conversion of Paul, which had been issued in the volume on Infidelity, have all been recast in a large type and published separately, thus to increase their circulation and usefulness.

The fifth volume of *D'Aubigné's History in German* is now stereotyped by the liberality of a Christian friend.

Of the FAMILY CHRISTIAN ALMANAC for 1857, 160,000 were issued; and of the Christian Almanac in German, 30,000. The Almanac in English for 1858 will be enlarged to sixty pages.

Of the AMERICAN MESSENGER the circulation is now about 195,000 monthly; of the Botschafter, or Messenger in German, about 28,000; of The Child's Paper, about 310,000; in the aggregate, 533,000. The cost of paper, and of the printing and folding as estimated by the printer and binder, for the year, has been, for the Messenger, \$21,257 27; Botschafter, \$3,491 97; Child's Paper, \$21,665 77; paid to assistant editors of German Messenger and Child's Paper, and to writers, \$1,291; salaries and expenses in the office of these papers, \$3,140 41; carriers, \$195 50: total, \$51,041 92. Cash received during the year for the three papers, \$51,501 02. The receipts for the year have thus exceeded the estimated expenditure by \$459 10; while in the preceding year they fell short, by \$1,580 85, of a similar estimate of the cost. The whole number of copies printed during the year was, of the Messenger, 2,338,500; Botschafter, 355,500; Child's Paper, 3,854,000: total, 6,548,000 copies. The responsibility and labor of preparing and issuing these monthly papers is great. No pains is spared to make each number worthy of the wide circulation it has providentially gained, and such as it may be hoped God will bless to the temporal and eternal good of men; and perhaps no department of the Society's labors is more cordially welcomed by the Christian community, or more evidently sowing that spiritual seed which it may be hoped will spring up and bear fruit to eternal life.

PRINTED AND CIRCULATED.

There have been *printed* during the year, according to the Depository's statement annexed, 886,500 volumes, 11,163,917 publications, 287,523,184 pages; and *circulated* 996,358 volumes, 10,972,646 publications, 282,899,770 pages. The total amount circulated since the formation of the Society, is 12,350,169 volumes, 179,080,922 publications, 4,503,340,851 pages; including 146,961 volumes (9,719 sets) of the Evangelical Family Library, 94,026 volumes (2,089 sets) of the Christian Library, 43,163 volumes (1,771 sets) of the Religious, or Pastor's Library, 284,253 volumes (4,056 sets) of the Youth's Library, and 152,418 volumes (19,271 sets) of the Youth's Scripture Biography.

DEPOSITORY'S STATEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS PRINTED AND CIRCULATED, 1857.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY.	Printed during the past year.			Circulated the past year.			Printed since the formation of the Society.			Circulated since the formation of the Society.			Remaining in the Depository and Sheet-room, April 1, 1857.		
	COPIES.	PAGES.		COPIES.	PAGES.		COPIES.	PAGES.		COPIES.	PAGES.		COPIES.	PAGES.	
TRACTS.—English Duodecimo.....	5,235,000	33,820,000		5,000,577	35,375,528		137,062,350	1,134,212,952		128,116,637	1,053,347,039		8,945,623	70,865,013	
Foreign Languages do.....	1,135,000	7,884,000		1,080,956	7,450,500		14,128,500	113,638,000		12,318,934	95,792,364		1,800,566	17,845,636	
Children's Tracts, English and Foreign Languages.....	614,500	12,000,000		1,817,646	17,378,321		13,428,750	246,550,000		12,000,000	236,728,593		519,746	19,391,407	
Broad-sheets, Handbills, and Cards.....	2,332,000	2,332,000		780,031	780,031		11,514,616	11,514,616		8,045,350	8,045,350		2,800,266	2,800,266	
Family Christian Almanac, Eng. and Ger.....	190,917	9,927,634		190,917	9,927,634		4,246,410	207,796,274		4,246,410	207,796,274		93,572	3,492,500	
New Series 18mo.....	175,000	9,094,000		136,561	7,003,361		588,000	28,744,000		491,438	25,315,200				
Total Tracts.....	10,277,417	75,027,634		9,976,288	78,445,625		180,068,536	1,732,455,842		168,730,753	1,617,635,720		14,237,773	114,530,122	
VOLUMES.—12mo bound Tracts, Eng., Ger., etc.....	3,000	1,500,000		2,602	1,317,776		100,274	66,159,820		120,761	58,117,656		30,513	8,042,164	
Duodecimo volumes.....	126,000	54,610,000		117,557	49,660,146		1,438,065	635,141,108		1,371,946	548,881,193		166,749	76,338,915	
Octavo volumes.....	35,000	30,960,000		32,733	18,485,310		307,500	1,031,802,000		184,128	90,002,138		23,372	13,739,862	
Volumes 18mo, including 146,961 vols. Family Library; 94,026 vols. Christian Lib'y; 43,163 vols. Religious Lib'y; 284,253 vols. Youth's Lib'y, and 152,418 vols. Scripture Biography, circulated.....	478,500	94,219,000		570,606	88,595,682		8,909,943	1,831,738,034		8,395,055	1,734,946,284		704,888	97,491,710	
Volumes 32mo.....	88,000	13,394,000		85,678	13,017,492		935,850	150,711,877		704,559	126,752,591		171,261	32,030,986	
Pocket Manuals, 64 to 318 pages each.....	86,000	13,104,000		99,905	17,375,442		1,136,945	177,375,442		1,005,349	161,520,213		161,520	15,540,929	
Volumes in Foreign Languages.....	67,000	14,702,500		57,217	15,365,896		885,500	181,943,000		753,366	164,516,705		102,131	17,426,295	
do. in Indian.....							5,972	1,312,311		5,972	1,312,311				
Total Volumes.....	886,500	212,405,500		996,358	304,454,145		13,050,970	3,147,183,562		12,350,169	2,885,715,131		1,330,510	261,408,461	
Total Publications.....	11,163,917	287,523,184		10,972,646	282,899,770		194,049,209	4,878,630,434		179,080,922	4,503,340,851		15,608,253	376,298,583	

GRATUITOUS DISTRIBUTION DURING THE YEAR.

FOREIGN.

	PAGES.
American Mission, China	48,000
“ “ Ceylon	25,900
“ “ Syria	25,150
“ “ Turkey	43,025
Madura Mission	76,350
Kolapur “	55,850
Micronesian “	100,000
Presbyterian Board of Missions, Northern India	178,980
Maulmain Mission, Burmah	57,500
Gaboon “	19,065
M. D. Kalopothakes, Athens, Greece	37,500
Rev. E. Bond, Hilo, Sandwich Islands	5,700
Church at Hilo, “	5,500
Rev. Lowell Smith, “	15,000
“ S. Hofmeyer, D.D., Cape Town, Africa	4,500
Mrs. Anna M. Scott, Cape Palmas, “	26,250
Rev. F. T. Williams, Africa	7,500
J. A. Van Straaten, Utresht, Holland	2,250
Rev. Mr. Luther, Rotterdam, “	15,000
National Gospel Institute, Stockholm, Sweden	24,675
Rev. S. Losevitz, Riga, Russia	37,500
F. W. Bergeman, New Ruppın, Prussia	15,000
Rev. J. G. Oncken, Hamburg, Germany	144,000
“ John Bacon, “	10,000
Charles F. Gibson, Heidelberg, “	3,000
Rev. L. Jacoby, Bremen, “	9,900
M. M. Boomgarden, Emden, “	4,500
Pastor Drieh, Bremerhaven, “	6,930
H. Voskamp, Antwerp, Belgium	88,085
Evangelical Society, Nuremberg, Bavaria	37,500
Lower Saxony Tract Society	35,000
Louis Courtois, Toulouse, France	1,500
Louis Ehrlen, Colmar, “	20,000
Mr. Moore, Madrid, Spain	5,550
William Houston, Cooktown, Ireland	15,000
Rev. Henry Smith, Dublin, “	30,000
Peter Drummond, Sterling, Scotland	9,750
J. Atkins, Liverpool, England	7,000
Rev. John Scott, London, “	6,750
Thomas B. Smithies, “	17,250
Relig. Tract Society, “	12,210
Religious Tract and Book Society, Sydney, New South Wales	150,000
Mr. Spalding, San Salvador, Cent. Am.	9,450
Jose A. Barras, Santa Martha, “	52,500
Rev. Benjamin Smith, “	30,000
James Henderson, Para, S. A.	5,000
George L. Carver, “	15,000
Andreas Jean Montes, Bolivia, “	4,070
Rev. Frederick Crow, “	1,575
“ J. S. Diehl, Nicaragua, “	5,000
“ Thos. L'Hombrol, Buenos Ayres, “	5,000
A. J. Smith, “	18,000
John W. Mattoes, Amazonia, “	15,000
William Jeffries, “	15,000
John Haxwell, Peru, “	15,000
J. A. Monra, Rio Negro, “	15,000
Col. Antiz, Gov. Gen. of Peru, “	25,000
James Wallace, Serpa, “	15,000
Rev. Alexander Henderson, Honduras, “	10,000
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David Morn, Mexico, “	5,325
Rev. M. J. Monsalvatge, “	12,000
F. H. Herre, Prus. Consul, Carthage, “	9,000
W. S. H. Newman, Esq., U.S. Consul, Newfoundland	5,000
Rev. John G. Urling, British Guiana	30,000
Religious Tract and Book Society, Hobart, New Holland	11,250
Rev. N. Cyr, Grand Ligne, Canada	21,660
L. Rousseau “	11,250

	PAGES.
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Benjamin T. Eastman, Gaspes, “	7,500
Religious Tract Society, Montreal, “	30,000
Rev. C. Bancroft, Canada West	5,005
“ A. B. Spaulding, Havanna, W. I.	27,900
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Abram Riley, St. Domingo, “	3,600
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E. C. Luke, Hayti, “	10,000
Rev. Mr. Phillips, Jamaica, “	10,000
“ A. G. Hogg, “	5,000
M. W. Davenport, Bermuda, “	900
Rev. S. Van Dizzel, Curacao, “	7,500
“ Arthur Waring, Cape Haytien, W. I.	25,000

SHIPPING FOR FOREIGN PORTS.

Two hundred and eighty-three Liverpool packets	1,169,120
Eighty London packets	374,097
Sixty Havre packets	280,700
Forty-nine Antwerp packets	214,625
Eleven Rotterdam packets	44,072
Sixty-two Bremen packets	290,510
Forty-eight Hamburg packets	185,176
Seven Glasgow packets	15,304
Two hundred and forty-five ships	990,507
One hundred and seventy-seven barks	425,308
Three hundred and sixty-two brigs	747,582
Two hundred and eleven schooners	382,402
Forty-four steamships	269,476
J. S. Pierson, for distribution on shipping to crews, passengers, and in foreign ports, ...	439,836

ARMY AND NAVY.

United States ship Independence	9,600
do. receiving ship North Carolina	20,000
do. frigate Wabash	20,000
do. sloop Falmouth	11,250
Mr. Winterton, for U. S. ship	9,000
Rev. C. H. Page, U. S. Chaplain, Newport, Ky.	82,500
“ Dr. McVickar, U. S. Chaplain, Governor's Island	14,775
C. Brinkerhoff, for Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va.	5,000
Rev. John Blake, for Navy Yard, Brooklyn, L. I.	10,000
U. S. Army, Fort Fillmore, New Mexico	22,500
Major Morris, for U. S. troops, Florida	11,175
Military posts in New Mexico and Texas	6,000

SEAMEN'S CHAPLAINS, ETC.

American Seamen's Friend Society	134,245
Western Seamen's Friend Society, Cleveland, Ohio	100,000
Rev. C. J. Jones, Bethel Chap. N. Y. city	96,800
“ B. C. C. Parker, “	181,844
G. M. Waite, for Floating Bethel, “	15,168
Mr. Tracy, for Sailors' Home, “	40,275
Rev. E. F. Remington, Seamen's Missionary, New York city	10,000
Rev. Ola Helland, Seamen's Missionary, New York city	30,000
New York Port Society, New York city	15,000
Rev. John Miles, Bethel Chaplain, Albany, New York	20,000
G. Owens, for Floating Bethel, Albany, New York	6,440
Rev. A. McGlashan, Seamen's Chaplain, Mobile, Ala.	33,000
Rev. J. Rowell, Seamen's Chaplain, New Grenada, South America	3,000
Rev. J. C. Beecher, Seamen's Chaplain, Canton, China	50,000

ON LAKES, CANALS, AND RIVERS.

American Bethel Society, as follows, viz:	
For Buffalo	100.000
" Rochester	100.000
" Syracuse	60.000
" Utica	100.000
" Albany	30.000
" Rondout	60.000
New York Central railroad	10.000
Delaware and Raritan canal	20.000
Rev. Mr. Davis, for boatmen, Troy, N. Y.	37.50
Gurdon Grant, " " "	30.000
Boatmen on Missouri river	20.825

LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

Teacher's Institute, Hartford, Conn.	24,300
Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.	22,500
Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.	15,000
Union Theological Seminary, New York city	18,750
Delaware Literary Institution, Franklin, New York	51,500
Ingham Collegiate Institute, Leroy, N. Y.	33,750
Female Institute, Rockland county, "	15,000
Rural Seminary, East Pembroke, "	7,500
Ashman Institute, Hinsonville, Pa.	15,000
Systematic Beneficence Society, Philadelphia, Pa.	53,110
Religious Improvement Society, Theological Seminary, Virginia	55,000
Columbia College, Washington, D. C.	37,500
Delaware College, Newark, Del.	7,500
Union University, Murfreesboro, Tenn.	52,500
Female School of Columbia Athenaeum, Tenn.	9,750
Knox Hill Academy, Florida	15,000
Austin College, Huntsville, Texas	30,000
Crane Hill College, Arkansas	24,000
Kenyon College, Ohio	30,375
Female Seminary, Oxford, Ohio	45,000
Female College, College Hill, Ohio	72,000
Western Reserve College, Ohio	15,000
Theological Seminary, Gambia, Ohio	7,500
Weideberg College, Tiffin, Ohio	15,000
Female Seminary, Painesville, Ohio	15,000
North Illinois University, Henry, Ill.	37,500
Webster College, Missouri	15,000
Yellow Springs College, Iowa	15,000
Burlington University,	30,000
Mary Lyon Female Seminary, Fox Lake, Wis.	15,000
Young Men's Christian Association, New York city	22,500
Young Men's Christian Association, Stapleton, Staten Island, N. Y.	27,500
Young Men's Christian Association, Newark, N. J.	22,500
Young Men's Christian Association, Washington, Pa.	37,500
Young Men's Christian Association, Portsmouth, Va.	15,000
Young Men's Christian Association, Savannah, Geo.	10,000
Young Men's Christian Association, Columbus, Ohio	30,000
Young Men's Christian Association, Burlington, Iowa	7,500
Young Men's Christian Association, Montreal, Canada	7,500

HUMANE INSTITUTIONS.

Five Points House of Industry, N. Y. city	30,000
Ladies' Five Points Mission,	" " 2,706
Colored Orphan Asylum,	" " 7,875
Colored Sailor's Home,	" " 9,500
Women's Hospital,	" " 16,050
Magdalen Asylum,	" " 3,600
Leake and Watts Asylum.	" " 9,750

A. m. and For. Christian Union, N. Y. city	1,716
A. m. and Foreign Bible Society, " "	92,400
New York Sunday-school Union, " "	10,000
Ladies' Missy-Meeting, Bible house, " "	6,750
American Colonization Society, " "	60,000
Alms-house and Jail, Kings county, L. I. -	90,600
Mariner's Family Asylum, Staten Island -	13,500
Marine Hospital, Staten Island -	38,250
Female Industrial School, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5,000
State Lunatic Asylum, Utica, N. Y.	37,820
Water Cure Establishment, Clifton Springs, New York	39,825
Connecticut State Prison	46,575
Hudson County Jail, New Jersey	15,000
Dr. Armour, for Prison Library, Trenton, New Jersey	30,525
Alms-house and Jail, Philadelphia, Pa. -	198,180
E. C. Wilder, for Jail in Detroit, Mich.	15,000
do. for State's Prison, Jackson, Mich.	30,000
Chicago Fire Company, Illinois	18,000
Jail and Work-house, St. Louis, Mo.	5,250
Miss D. L. Dix, for Humane Institutions -	17,250

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Three	Sabbath-schools in Connecticut -	14,175	500
Seventy-eight	do.	New York -	371,800
Nine	do.	New Jersey -	24,365
Two	do.	Pennsylvania	117,510
Two	do.	Virginia -	1,165
Two	do.	S. Carolina -	94,710
One	do.	Kentucky -	5,000
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Two	do.	Illinois -	15,000
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One	do.	Michigan -	4,500
Three	do.	Indiana -	37,500
One	do.	Missouri -	13,800
Five	do.	Wisconsin -	27,200
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ton		1,500
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Mrs. Hart, Darien	1,500	Thomas Mehany, "	6,000
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Rev. A. Bert, "	3,000	J. H. Taylor, "	1,600
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W. H. Rogers, "	5,000	Persons employed in Society's house	30,175
W. C. Whitefield, "	30,645	Persons employed in Printing Office	55,725
B. L. Hurd, "	37,425	Persons employed in Bindery	165,000
Lieut. R. B. Riell, "	9,375	L. W. Brinckerhoff, Depositary	241,882
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J. B. Bonar, "	18,075	Rev. Ashbel Otis, Virgil	1,500
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T. P. Rumney, White Plains.....	1,500	Mr. Frothingham, Princeton.....	1,500
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Charles Clark, Pelham.....	1,500	Rev. Thomas S. Stites, Dennisville.....	3,000
Miss E. C. Lake, Morris.....	240	Rev. Mr. Burdenburder, Newark.....	5,000
William Weller, Knightsville.....	752	German Presbyterian Church, ".....	6,150
Miss McNish, Westfield.....	1,275	Carstien Schroeder, North Branch.....	375
C. Fugman, Yonkers.....	2,056	Rev. James Tweed, Oceanport.....	3,000
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Miss A. V. Parker, Groveland.....	3,000	Rev. James Teed, Eatontown.....	5,000
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Rev. R. Reynolds, Hales Eddy.....	376	W. S. Brown, Orange.....	3,000
Mrs. Roslyn, Greensborough.....	1,125	PENNSYLVANIA.—Mrs. W. Baker, Altona.....	
A. Van Santvord, Schoenectady.....	2,100	6,525	
Rev. William Shortt, Whitestone.....	3,000	Mrs. H. Lambert, Altona.....	1,500
Rev. John Breher, West Dryden.....	3,000	Rev. T. T. Bradford, Waterford.....	5,000
Experience Atherton, Friendship.....	3,000	H. C. Baada, Easton.....	6,100
Mrs. Woodruff, Auburn.....	5,000	Mrs. E. P. Halsey, Norristown.....	6,840
Mrs. T. Martin, ".....	5,000	Rev. William Rowland, Hyde Park.....	3,000
William Leech, Brighton.....	1,500	F. H. Wines, Washington.....	3,750
Ann Williams, Pittsford.....	1,500	Rev. T. R. Drummond, Dunmore.....	7,500
Henry Waterstreet, Glenville.....	1,000	Rev. Samuel Porter, Bradford.....	5,000
Rev. J. T. Baldwin, Franklinville.....	1,500	Samuel E. Appleton, Columbia.....	5,000
Gilbert H. Swerey, Yaphank.....	376	Rev. N. F. Reynolds, Ocoola.....	10,000
George Watts, Mamaroneck.....	1,500	J. N. Folwell, Honesdale.....	3,000
L. Raymond, Coshocton.....	4,710	Rev. U. T. Chamberlain, Rockdale.....	5,000
Rev. S. M. Campbell, Paris Hill.....	18,000	Joseph E. Fincke, Colebrookdale.....	1,500
Rev. G. Brown, Hamilton.....	5,000	Rev. S. J. McCullough, Tioga.....	5,000
Rev. Mr. Gallagher, Oswego.....	1,000	Joseph Mahon, Chippensburg.....	1,500
Mrs. M. A. W. Sanborn, Elmira.....	4,500	Rev. William Roedel.....	1,500
Lewis Kinyon, Johnsburg.....	12,000	Rev. E. H. Snowden, Kingston.....	5,000
Rev. William Youngblood, Montgomery.....	1,500	Rev. Henry Warner, Great Bend.....	5,000
Rev. William Pitcher, South Branch.....	1,500	A. C. Hinman, Wysox.....	1,500
Rev. O. N. Benton, Tioga Co.	3,000	Rev. A. R. Raymond, Hamilton.....	10,000
Rev. Edward Shatto, Ashland.....	5,000	John Lehman, Pittsburgh.....	1,500
Rev. W. K. Platt, Fairport.....	1,500	John Rice, Hopedale.....	4,500
Rev. H. Wheeler, Livingston.....	3,000	Rev. Dr. Belcher, Philadelphia.....	7,200
Rev. G. P. Martin, Nyack.....	1,200	H. N. Thissell, ".....	129,600
Rev. E. Baldwin, Unadilla.....	3,000	Rev. Samuel Hutchings, Wilkesbarre.....	5,750
John Webster, Staten Island.....	1,800	Rev. J. F. Cawkins, Wellsboro.....	5,000
Mr. Egglinton, Dutchess Co.	1,500	Rev. Mr. Peet, Montrose.....	5,000
Rev. John Gray, Cicero.....	3,200	MARYLAND.—A. M. Carter, Baltimore.....	
Mrs. Snodgrass, Goshen.....	3,000	3,000	
Rev. Jacob Kolb, Calliocon.....	3,000	Miss E. H. Murray, West River.....	3,000
Rev. George Anderson, Dutchess Co.	6,585	A. J. Stansbury, Washington, D. C.	25,000
Miss Mary A. Lathrop, Brockport.....	4,500	N. B. Northrop, ".....	10,000
Valentine Muller, Canajoharie.....	3,000	Baptist Church, ".....	10,000
Mrs. Nancy S. Dobbs, Prattsburgh.....	1,500	Henderson Sutor, Georgetown, ".....	5,000
Robert H. Penn, Rochester.....	1,500	VIRGINIA.—Rev. James B. Taylor, Richmond.....	
William B. Askam, Clermont.....	3,000	5,000	
Rev. M. T. Adam, Southeast.....	2,052	Miss Sarah E. Miller, Richmond.....	4,420
C. O. Reynolds, Morrisania.....	5,000	Rev. John Glassell, Brandy Station.....	3,000
Rev. T. J. Evans, Blauveltville.....	15,000	Thomas J. Myers, Seven Mile Ford.....	16,485
Miss Annette Bell, Lysander.....	5,000	G. E. Crawford, Alexandria.....	2,625
Rev. T. S. Gibbs, Port Jefferson.....	5,000	Marvin Briggs, ".....	3,000
John P. Cushman, Troy.....	41,679	Rev. John D. Powell, Kabletown.....	5,000
Rev. W. J. McCord, Tribes Hill.....	2,016	Mrs. Gross, Lynchburgh.....	750
Rev. Mr. Jewett, Piermont.....	5,000	John C. Underwood, Clark Co.	10,000
Rev. W. T. Reynolds, Kainstone.....	5,000	Dr. J. H. Minor, Albemarle.....	37,500
Rev. Thomas W. Tobez, Yanceyville.....	3,000	Rev. William Wise, Port Richmond.....	3,000
Charles V. Booth, Greenpoint.....	1,500	Rev. William Kopp, Martinsburg.....	5,000
I. W. Brinckerhoff, Mount Vernon.....	155,055	Rev. A. H. Price, Sulphur Springs.....	28,245
NEW JERSEY.—Rev. E. Ebling, Perth Amboy.....		A. W. Allemond, Lost River.....	3,000
2,910		Mrs. F. R. G. Davenport, Charlotteville.....	270
Rev. M. Ely, Perth Amboy.....	3,000	E. Matthews, Bell Island.....	1,500
Rev. Samuel Whaley, Mount Pleasant.....	2,725	Rev. J. M. Haines, Hampton.....	5,000
Rev. William Doepenschmidt, Jersey City.....	3,000	NORTH CAROLINA.—W. L. Pomeroy, Raleigh.....	
Rev. F. M. Shneeveiss, Warren.....	4,500	6,900	
Mr. Berry, New Durham.....	7,500	Rev. J. L. Michaux, Greensboro.....	5,000
		Mrs. Mary Nott, Goldsboro.....	2,350

Rev. C. F. Deems, Wilmington	6,000	Rev. S. W. Dunning, Kalamazoo	5,000
SOUTH CAROLINA.—Miss Montgomery, Graniteville	3,900	E. W. Taylor, Cassopolis	15,000
Rev. Thomas Smyth, Charleston	22,500	Rev. Samuel Hemmenway	5,000
GEORGIA.—Mrs. J. L. Hyde, Macon	1,500	J. H. Weldron, Port Huron	5,000
Mrs. Laura Reel, Dalton	3,150	INDIANA.—Rev. H. C. Skinner, Wabash	5,000
Wm. C. Cheek, Mulberry	3,750	Rev. J. M. Whitehead, Door Village	5,000
R. S. Hill, Monte Video	1,875	H. J. Hall, Brighton	5,000
FLORIDA.—P. L. Warden, Tallahassee	3,000	John Lehman, Madison	4,200
C. G. Henderson, " "	890	J. M. Grether, Plymouth	3,000
Rev. Samuel D. Campbell, Knox Hill	7,600	Mrs. Cora C. Nonre, Oxford	5,000
ALABAMA.—Rev. W. Meikle, Mobile	3,000	Rev. Lyman Wilder, Columbus	5,000
Rev. Alexander M'Glashen, " "	18,750	ILLINOIS.—Amasa Lord, Elgin	75,500
MISSISSIPPI.—Rev. L. C. Phillips, Kosciusko	3,000	Mrs. Mary Spencer, Dwight	10,000
LOUISIANA.—O. L. Beach, New Orleans	37,500	Rev. John Fryse, Springfield	5,000
TEXAS.—Rev. Daniel Baker, Huntsville	3,060	Joseph Thayer, " "	3,000
Frank Van Wamell, Swearingen	603	Rev. M. J. Gonsalves, Jacksonville	4,900
James Burke, Houston	30,000	Rev. Spencer Baker, Melugin's Grove	10,000
Miss M. Rankin, Brownsville	27,500	Matthew M'Bride	3,000
Wm. R. Fayle, Lynchburg	5,000	Rev. S. W. Phelps, Lee Centre	5,000
ARKANSAS.—Rev. Mr. Talbot	9,750	Rev. J. C. Seybold, Warsaw	5,000
Rev. A. Beattie, Union Springs	7,600	J. S. Parsons, Gardner Station	3,000
TENNESSEE.—John Smith, Jonesboro	17,400	Rev. G. D. Blezema, Xenia	1,800
Jasper Ragsdale, Four Mile Branch	750	Rev. J. M. Cochran, Batavia	5,000
Rev. Silas Woodbury, Shelbyville	3,000	Presbyterian Church, Galena	9,225
Wm. D. Martin, Smyrna	1,500	W. C. Wood, Juliett	3,000
Mrs. Lucy R. Kimbrough, Wesley	1,300	Rev. W. A. Nichols, Chicago	16,875
Rev. J. R. Boyce, Portersville	1,500	Rev. Wm. Latta, " "	1,500
J. J. Frierson, Lewis county	7,500	Mrs. M. A. Latta, " "	1,500
Rev. N. H. Boughton	14,700	Morris Lewis, " "	1,500
John W. Ogden	4,500	Rev. J. M. Wagner, Freeport	7,500
KENTUCKY.—Mrs. E. Fuller, Midway	3,000	Rev. P. Ketcham, Galena	5,000
James Dehoff, Somerset	1,500	H. G. Pendleton, Henry	27,810
Rev. Josiah Hill, Bowling Green	5,000	Mr. De Hagen	7,500
James A. Scrogin, Nicholasville	5,000	D. S. Durvin	42,600
OHIO.—Rev. P. C. Baldwin, Waterville	5,000	Rev. A. Bryant	137,655
Rev. George Rottig, Buena Vista	5,000	Rev. M. S. Parrington	174,525
Alfred Munach, Bucyrus	900	Rev. S. D. Miller, Carmi	900
David Davies, Fawcett	5,000	Mrs. Egglston, Mendon	5,000
Wm. Wilson, Suffield	3,000	MISSOURI.—Rev. Wm. Anderson, High Hill	1,500
George Fustavern, Cleveland	3,000	Rev. Richard Davis, South Bend	15,000
John Waltz, " "	5,000	WISCONSIN.—Eben Harris, Watertown	8,000
James Ellis, " "	5,000	Rev. J. Zimmerman, New Glarus	7,500
E. H. Werrell, " "	94,545	Rev. John Lewis, Platteville	8,500
Rev. Thomas Lee, " "	10,000	Mrs. S. A. Taylor, Fennimore	1,215
Rev. H. Calhoun, Mount Vernon	840	Rev. W. A. Niles, Watertown	5,000
James Stevenson, Portsmouth	750	Rev. Christian Sans, " "	10,000
Mrs. Louisa Berry, Hillsboro	1,500	T. C. F. Theiss, Madison	5,000
Miss Sarah Kroh, Hudson	12,315	Walter M'Farlane, Two Rivers	5,000
Wm. Kendrick, Oberlin	10,000	Rev. W. Cargin, Cambridge	10,000
J. B. Schluyter, " "	8,000	Rev. Purley Work, Sheboygan	5,000
Rev. P. M. Weddell, Canton	5,000	Rev. D. W. Wilcox, Green Bay	5,000
B. T. Noakes, Gambia	1,125	R. E. Jones, Napaah	16,200
Rev. R. Holden, " "	10,000	IOWA.—Jacob Kolk, Lansing	478
Rev. Caleb Burbank, Chatham Centre	3,455	Mrs. Hoffman, Burlington	4,500
Rev. Moses Hamilton, Napoleon	5,000	S. G. Goodrich	2,100
Rev. Wm. Andrews, Bellfontaine	7,500	J. M'LAY, Dubuque	375
Richard G. Williams, Batavia	3,000	First Presbyterian Church, Dubuque	9,225
J. Milton Camp, Martin	15,000	D. Witherwax, Davenport	7,500
Rev. F. G. Abele, Massillon	10,000	John W. Hincks	3,150
Wm. Derby, Hamilton	3,000	Rev. J. W. Windsor, Oregon Grove	5,000
Rev. E. Thompson, Strongsville	2,000	Rev. R. C. Boag, Princeton	30,000
Rev. Hugh Carlisle, Groton	5,000	CALIFORNIA.—Rev. T. W. Moore, Sacramento	7,500
Rev. L. D. Porter, Glendale	1,500	Rev. James M. Fulton, Michigan Bar	3,000
MICHIGAN.—L. A. Day, Adrian	15,000	George A. King, Los Angeles	5,000
L. H. Stanley, Barnum	2,300	MINNESOTA TERRITORY.—Rev. L. Palmer, Onoka	5,000
Rev. A. Scofield, Cosannu	5,550	Rev. G. Bent, Onoka	5,000
Rev. Wm. Fuller, Sturgis	5,000	Rev. Richard Davis, South Bend	15,000
Rev. Silas Jessup, Paw Paw	5,000	William Barnes, Carver Co.	3,000
Rev. Wm. Bailey, Constantine	5,000	Rev. J. L. Irvin, Saratoga	5,000
Rev. Aaron Potter, Clarkstown	1,150	OREGON TERRITORY.—Rev. M. Bay-akin	15,000
Rev. John Van Vleck, Holland	15,000	E. Clark	5,000
Rev. Charles Spooner, Greenville	30,075	KANSAS TERRITORY.—Henry P. Waters, Topeka	30,000
Rev. Hiram Elmer, Chelsea	5,000	S. B. Prentice, Lawrence	15,000
Rev. T. R. Chipman, Detroit	1,500	R. N. Crosby, Grasshopper Falls	500
Rev. E. W. Shaw, " "	9,195		
Thomas Wright, Ypsilanti	26,490		
Rev. Azariah Wright, Jonesville	3,000		

T. Newby, Lebanon City	3,750
A. G. Grant	3,750
C. W. Lane, for distribution of Tract No. 462, he having given one hundred dollars for that purpose	150,000

DOMESTIC MISSIONARIES.

Rhode Island Baptist State Convention, for their missionaries	15,000
New Jersey Baptist State Convention, for their missionaries	60,000
W. H. Bulkley, Louisville, Kentucky, for Domestic Missionaries	37,500
Rev. R. Deering, for Domestic Missionaries in Kentucky	100,000
Rev. C. Peabody, for Domestic Missionaries in Missouri	115,635
H. N. Thissell, for Domestic Missionaries in Pennsylvania	148,335
Missionaries of the American Home Missionary Society	58,500

BY COLPORTEURS AND THE SOCIETY'S AGENTS, AMONG THE DESTITUTE IN THE SEVERAL STATES, AS FOLLOWS: NAMELY,

Connecticut	50,025
New York	3,673,387
New Jersey	319,380
Pennsylvania	8,513,495
Delaware	136,195
Virginia	5,192,490
North Carolina	2,361,575
South Carolina	2,382,870
Georgia	1,020,400
Florida	46,350
Alabama	106,851
Mississippi	430,320
Louisiana	842,005
Texas	368,995
Arkansas	594,102
Tennessee	79,190
Ohio	2,050,550
Michigan	1,350,665
Indiana	21,420
Illinois	4,073,306
Missouri	1,967,370
Wisconsin	1,657,320
Iowa	470,490
Canada	1,117,160

BY CENTRAL AGENCY, CINCINNATI.

Ohio	2,345,760
Indiana	1,080,615
Kentucky	1,132,900
Tennessee	1,113,900
Alabama	85,305
Miscellaneous grants by S. Wood	878,985
By S. Wood, from Depository	15,585

General Agents and students	189,946
Mission Sabbath-schools	64,035
Floating Bethel, Cincinnati, for Boatmen	20,850
United States Barracks, Newport, Ky.	54,375
Home and Domestic Missionaries	95,775
Jail, Hospital, etc., Cincinnati, Ohio	37,245
Chillicothe Tract Society	50,010
Cincinnati Female Seminary	45,000
Young Men's Christian Union, (German,) Cincinnati, Ohio	5,400
Editors	3,825
Rev. J. W. Goodlin, Bellfontaine, Ohio	25,320
J. B. Walker, Bell Brooks, "	6,980
Mrs. J. Seamons, Cleveland, "	8,475
Rev. Mr. Foster, Memphis, Tenn.	3,000

TO AUXILIARIES.

New Haven, Conn.	65,500
New York city, for their missionaries	17,325
" " Shipping Committee	698,435
" " Floating population	241,363
" " Emigrants	186,023
Lodi, N. Y.	675
Philadelphia Tract Society	900,000
Baltimore Branch, Md.	5,000
Young Ladies Tract Society, Washington, D. C.	5,000
Southern Baptist Tract Society	180,000
Young Men's Tract Soc., Louisville, Ky.	37,500
For monthly distribution, "	226,800
Indianapolis, Ind., Depository	90
Rock Island, Ill.	13,868
For City distribution, St. Louis, Mo.	5,250
Ladies' Union Tract Soc., Superior, Wis.	1,875
Beloit, Wis., Depository	60
Hawaiian Tract Society, Sandwich Isl'a.	375,000

TOTALS.

Foreign	2,014,695
Shipping—for Foreign ports	5,328,596
Army and Navy	221,800
Seamen's Chaplains, etc.	735,772
On Lakes, Canals, and Rivers	568,325
Literary Institutions	980,035
Humane Institutions	850,622
Mission Sabbath-schools	762,925
To Individuals for Destitute	4,930,925
To Home and Domestic Missionaries	534,970
By Colporteurs and Agents of the Society	38,615,911
By Colporteurs, etc., of the Central Agency at Cincinnati	7,283,985
To Auxiliaries	2,959,764
Total, 4,366 distinct grants	66,288,325
Delivered to Members and Directors of the Society	11,132,595

The Distributing Committee, on whom devolves chiefly the responsibility of sanctioning the Society's grants of publications, have endeavored to meet all the providential openings for the judicious distribution of these messages of salvation to those who would not otherwise be supplied; in all the varied circumstances of life, at home and abroad, by land and sea, wherever the people of God have discovered opportunities of usefulness, and with love to the best interests of men, have been ready thus to seek their good.

The above details give a summary of the applications to which that Committee have given careful attention at their weekly meetings during the year. In 4,366 distinct grants, they have sanctioned the gratuitous distribution of 66,288,325 pages. Besides these grants, 11,132,595 pages have been delivered to Life Members and Life Directors, making in all, 77,420,920 pages ; amounting, at 1,500 pages to the dollar, to *fifty-one thousand six hundred and thirteen dollars and ninety-five cents*.

These grants have had a wide circulation, reaching our foreign and home missionary fields, accompanying our shipping to foreign ports, going to our army and navy, to seamen's chaplains, to boatmen on our lakes, rivers, and canals, to our mission Sabbath-schools, to auxiliaries and branches, and to 754 colporteurs, who have been in the Society's service the whole or a part of the year, and have made it their business daily to distribute these publications, accompanied by fervent conversation and prayer.

The good accomplished by this wide distribution year after year, is constantly developing, and will be more fully revealed by the light of eternity.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The *donations* for the year ending April 1, including \$22,114 98 in legacies, have been \$153,985 95, being \$4,449 13 less than the previous year ; the legacies being \$4,306 19, and the other donations \$142 94 less than the preceding year. Receipts for sales, including \$51,501 02 for the American Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper, \$266,599 44 ; being \$9,427 93 more than for the previous year. Total resources for the year, including \$2,310 03 in the treasury April 1, 1856, \$422,895 42.

The expenditures for the year have been \$418,929 53, of which amount there has been paid for paper, printing, binding, engraving, translating, copy-rights, Bibles, preparing Family Christian Almanac, assistance in editing Child's Paper and German Messenger, and for articles inserted in the Society's periodicals, \$216,614 07 ; for colportage, \$119,510 97 ; remitted to foreign and pagan lands, \$18,000. Balance in the treasury, \$3,965 89.

The donations received during the year having been acknowledged monthly in the American Messenger, only the larger amounts are here inserted.

The *American Tract Society, Boston*, occupying Maine, New Hamp-

shire, Vermont, and Massachusetts, in addition to the amount expended on their own field, have paid the Society in donations, including \$1,000 for foreign lands, \$7,280 71; and for publications, \$31,742 36. Total donations and legacies from the above-mentioned states, \$11,083 42.

Donations from *Rhode Island*, including from Newport, \$200 50, Providence \$1,508 07, and a legacy of \$200, amount to \$2,043 57.

From *Connecticut*, including from Ellington \$100 83, Danbury \$154 40, Fairhaven \$124 79, Farmington \$104 41, Greenwich \$115 50, Hartford \$2,669 71, Manchester \$185, Middletown \$122 60, New Haven \$1,538 82, New London \$520 21, Norwich \$563 32, Pomfret \$104, Southport \$117 38, Stratford \$120, Woodbury \$126 89, and \$2,002 16 in legacies, amount to \$12,453 53.

From *New York city*, including \$4,507 98 in legacies, \$34,557 23.

From the *state of New York*, exclusive of the city, including \$8,952 09 in legacies, \$29,907 78. The donations include from Astoria \$638 50, Auburn \$216 93, Batavia \$184 62, Binghamton \$127 84, Brooklyn \$1,852 90, Buffalo \$1,063 32, Canandaigua \$372 07, Cazenovia \$155, Danville \$107 24, Coila \$100, Elmira \$283 85, Fredonia \$212, Geneva \$113 17, Homer \$154 34, Huron \$112, Irvington \$126 50, Ithaca \$164 05, Jamaica \$117, Kingston \$127, Lockport \$644 81, Lyons \$208 42, Medina \$179 81, Newburgh \$239 50, Niagara Falls \$204 73, Northville \$165 54, Oswego \$277 84, Painted Post \$136 50, Palmyra \$151, Phelps \$242, Prattsburg \$111 61, Prattsville \$141, Poughkeepsie \$586 40, Rochester \$2,891 97, Saugerties \$195, Schenectady \$140, Spuyten Duyvel \$150, Troy \$162 50, Utica \$100, Wassertown \$307 50, Westfield \$120 75, Woodbourne \$150, Yonkers \$208 50.

From *New Jersey*, including from Caldwell \$158 25, Morristown \$203 07, Newark \$508 88, Orange \$380, Paterson \$170, Somerville \$157 65, Plainfield \$106 69, and \$500 in legacies, \$4,052 86.

From *Pennsylvania*, including from Alleghany City \$158 87, Carlisle \$155 27, Harrisburgh \$455 67, Mohrsville \$100, Philadelphia \$3,967 94, Pittsburgh \$308 24, Pigeon Creek \$215 50, Shirleysburg \$100, York \$243, and \$100 in legacies, \$10,368 93.

From *Delaware*, \$185 52. From *Maryland*, \$156, including a legacy of \$5. From the *District of Columbia*, including \$397 from Washington city, \$468 45.

From *Virginia*, \$5,527 11, including from Alexandria \$449 12, Norfolk \$114 25, Petersburg \$141 58, Richmond \$1,231 12. *North Carolina*, \$2,687 31, including from Fayetteville \$180, Goldsboro

\$295 50, Greensboro \$179 50, Raleigh \$498, Newbern \$200, Salem \$320, and Wilmington \$358. *South Carolina*, \$3,589 84, including from Beaufort \$170 50, Charleston \$2,051 95, Columbia \$227, Greenville \$200, Walterborough \$170 35, and \$182 24 in legacies. *Georgia*, \$4,671 38, including from Athens \$198 65, Augusta \$1,812 65, Columbus \$167 75, Madison \$108 31, Macon \$173 60, Milledgeville \$144 85, Monticello \$100, Savannah \$1,319 72, and a legacy of \$25. *Florida*, \$147 09, including a legacy of \$100.

From *Alabama*, \$519 44, including \$440 from Mobile. *Mississippi*, \$1,448 50, including from Woodville \$345, and legacies \$900. *Louisiana*, \$1,345 22, including from Clinton \$610, New Orleans \$532 39. *Texas*, \$120 46. *Arkansas*, \$660 32, including from Boonsboro \$151 90, Little Rock \$121 15, Helena \$120 30.

From *Tennessee*, \$2,388 90, including from Clarksville \$295, Knoxville \$155, Lebanon \$137, Nashville \$142, and a legacy, \$610. *Kentucky*, \$1,337 57, including from Louisville \$350 67.

From *Ohio*, \$9,309 63, including from Bloomingburgh \$148, Canton \$144 44, Cincinnati \$2,878 12, Cleveland \$888 27, Columbus \$104 04, Delaware \$172, Norwalk \$144 53, Tallmadge \$150 14, and \$266 67 in legacies. *Indiana*, \$905 25, including \$210 from New Albany. *Illinois*, \$6,285 47, including from Alton \$111 25, Canton \$101, Chicago \$1,319 90, Elgin \$126 46, Galena \$102 90, Griggsville \$167 25, Jacksonville \$133 75, Jerseyville \$145 30, Lewiston \$100, Payson \$146 25, Peoria \$201 91, Quincy \$136 65, Rockford \$119 96, Rock Island \$101 75, Springfield \$406 75, and \$1,210 in legacies. *Missouri*, \$2,052 67, including \$717 60 from St. Louis. *Michigan*, \$1,028 30, including \$119 93 from Detroit. *Wisconsin*, \$1,402 68, including \$208 98 from Beloit, and \$800 in legacies. *Iowa*, \$2,436 35, including from Burlington \$350 53, Council Bluffs \$100 55, Davenport \$174, Denmark \$152 75, Dubuque \$315 78, Fort Des Moines \$102 75, Fort Mackinaw \$104 85, Keokuk \$404 75, Muscatine \$171 50, Pella \$143 85. *Minnesota*, \$88 45. *Oregon*, \$1 52. *Nebraska*, \$1. *California*, \$7 60.

From *Choctaw Nation*, \$34 25; *Cherokee Nation*, \$214 03, including \$182 43 from Park Hill; *Panama*, \$40; *Canada*, \$166 31; *West Indies*, \$20; *Great Britain*, \$2 41; *Germany*, \$2; *Switzerland*, \$20; *Syria*, \$10; *India*, \$96 10; *Sandwich Islands*, \$50; from unknown sources, \$91.

**SUMMARY OF DONATIONS AND LEGACIES FROM APRIL 1,
1856, TO APRIL 1, 1857.**

	Donations.	Legacies.	Total.		Donations.	Legacies.	Total.
Maine, N. Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts	\$9,329 58	1,753 84	11,083 42	Kentucky	1,337 57	-----	1,337 57
Rhode Island	1,843 57	200 00	2,043 57	Ohio	9,042 96	266 67	9,309 63
Connecticut	10,451 37	2,002 16	12,453 53	Indiana	905 25	-----	905 25
New York, including from New York city \$30,049 25 in donations, and \$4,507 98 in legacies	51,004 94	13,460 07	64,465 01	Illinois	5,075 47	1,210 00	6,285 47
New Jersey	3,552 86	500 00	4,052 86	Arkansas	660 32	-----	660 32
Pennsylvania	10,268 93	100 00	10,368 93	Missouri	2,052 67	-----	2,052 67
Delaware	185 52	-----	185 52	Michigan	1,028 30	-----	1,028 30
Maryland	151 50	5 00	156 50	Wisconsin	602 68	800 00	1,402 68
Dist. of Columbia	468 45	-----	468 45	Iowa	2,436 35	-----	2,436 35
Virginia	5,527 11	-----	5,527 11	Minnesota	88 45	-----	88 45
North Carolina	2,687 31	-----	2,687 31	Oregon	1 52	-----	1 52
South Carolina	3,407 60	182 24	3,589 84	Nebraska	1 00	-----	1 00
Georgia	4,046 38	25 00	4,071 38	California	7 60	-----	7 60
Florida	47 09	100 00	147 09	Choctaw Nation	34 25	-----	34 25
Alabama	519 44	-----	519 44	Cherokee Nation	214 03	-----	214 03
Mississippi	548 50	900 00	1,448 50	Panama	40 00	-----	40 00
Louisiana	1,345 22	-----	1,345 22	Canada	166 31	-----	166 31
Texas	120 46	-----	120 46	West Indies	20 00	-----	20 00
Tennessee	1,778 90	610 00	2,388 90	Great Britain	2 41	-----	2 41
				Germany	2 00	-----	2 00
				Switzerland	20 00	-----	20 00
				Syria	10 00	-----	10 00
				India	96 10	-----	96 10
				Sandwich Islands	50 00	-----	50 00
				States not given	91 00	-----	91 00
				Total	131,870 97	22,114 98	153,985 95

TRACT VISITATION—BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES.

As several of the Society's principal Branches and Auxiliaries issue full Annual Reports, which are published and extensively circulated, and the gratifying results of their labors and evidences of the divine blessing are so multiplied as to be quite beyond the limits of this Report, only a summary of results is here given. Momentous as is the Society's colporteur work, blessed as is the influence of its bound volumes, and distracted as are thousands of Christians from the work of *tract distribution*, it is a gratifying fact that the circulation of pamphlet tracts has not been diminished, but in the aggregate of the last five years has been more than double the total aggregate of the first five years, when the circulation of volumes, exclusive of bound tracts, had scarcely begun. Tens of thousands of faithful Christians, male and female, in all the departments of human life, threading the mazes of our guilty cities and seaports, and with the coöperation of pastors and missionaries reaching millions in almost every part of our land and world, as indicated in the above list of gratuitous distributions, *love and labor for souls* in the spirit of Harlan Page, "as they that must give account," and God blesses their en-

deavors and prayers, richly in their own spirits, and in gathering sheaves for the harvest of eternity.

The AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, BOSTON, continuing its cordial coöperation of thirty-two years, reported, the last year, receipts for sales of publications and periodicals, \$39,591 91; donations and legacies, \$28,702 68; total, \$68,968 14. Paid to the American Tract Society in New York for colportage \$12,506, for foreign lands \$3,000, for publications \$29,320 69. Total amount of gratuitous distributions, \$5,138 31. District Secretaries, Rev. J. W. Turner, Rev. J. W. Alvord, Rev. Phineas Bond, and Rev. John Jennings—Rev. H. B. Holmes having been providentially called to resign his agency and accept a pastoral charge in Belvidere, Illinois. Twenty-one colporteurs, including five students, had labored from two to ten months: their sales amounted to \$6,921 31; their grants to the destitute to \$843 15; religious meetings held, 331; families visited, 23,748, of which 14,005 were conversed and prayed with; and of which 6,152 families habitually neglected evangelical preaching. Many interesting facts were reported by these colporteurs, one of whom labored six months in Canada East, and two, three months in Nova Scotia.

In Boston, and numerous other cities and towns of the New England states, tract visitation, more or less connected with missionary efforts for the destitute, is systematically prosecuted.

The NEW YORK CITY TRACT SOCIETY, which in the system of mission tract visitation has set an example to our country and the world, at the end of thirty years is but increasing its strength and efficiency. At the close of 1856, it had *twenty-six* tract missionaries wholly devoted to its work, and 1,008 tract visitors. It reported for the year 1,523,947 tracts distributed, containing 6,095,788 pages; 898 Bibles and 1,000 Testaments, supplied by the New York Bible Society for the destitute; 6,454 volumes lent from the ward libraries; 2,360 children gathered into Sabbath and 341 into day schools; 201 persons into Bible-classes; 2,016 persons induced to attend church; 374 temperance pledges obtained; 1,013 religious meetings held; 73 backsliders reclaimed; 216 persons hopefully converted; and 153 united with evangelical churches. The receipts were \$17,046 90. These tract missionaries and visitors take an active part in the Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor of the city, an admirable institution which grew out of the City Tract Society, and relieved the last year 10,879 families.

The BROOKLYN TRACT SOCIETY employed the last year six missionaries and 433 visitors, who distributed 331,141 tracts, 704 Bibles,

and 1,021 Testaments ; gathered 753 children into Sabbath-schools and 47 into public-schools, and induced 614 persons to attend church. The missionaries visited 8,258 families.

The ALBANY CITY TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY have a superintendent and three missionaries, and about a hundred gratuitous visitors. During the year, 106,760 tracts were distributed, 25,329 visits were made by the superintendent and missionaries, 176 Bibles and 142 Testaments were given to the destitute, 54 religious meetings were held, and 526 sermons delivered, 241 persons induced to attend public worship, 266 children gathered into Sabbath-schools and 11 into day-schools, 6 backsliders reclaimed, 22 persons hopefully converted, and 19 introduced to church fellowship. The Society has 8 mission stations, at which 11 weekly services are sustained. Receipts \$2,684 59.

The PHILADELPHIA CITY TRACT SOCIETY have employed 7 missionaries and about 800 visitors and distributors, who have prosecuted this work after the manner of the city societies above named, reaching the great number of inmates in the humane and criminal institutions, the seamen, and other destitute classes.

The MARYLAND TRACT SOCIETY at Baltimore have employed ten colporteurs, three of whom were students, who visited 29,577 families, finding 3,812 who habitually neglected attending evangelical preaching, 1,500 who were destitute of all religious books except the Bible, and 1,468 who had not the word of God. They sold 8,020 volumes, and granted 1,904. The Society circulate 7,300 copies of the Messenger, English and German, and 7,000 of The Child's Paper.

The OREGON TRACT SOCIETY employ a colporteur, who has distributed more than 700,000 pages, and earnestly request the labors of an agent.

The HAWAIIAN AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETY circulated about \$600 worth in various languages, principally among seamen.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COLPORTAGE.

In view of the expansion and responsibility of the Society's colporteur work, and the faithful and efficient services of Mr. SAMUEL E. WARNER, who has for many years labored in the Tract-house as an assistant to the Secretaries in this department, the Executive Committee, in the absence of Rev. Mr. Cook in Europe, appointed Mr. Warner as Assistant Secretary for Colportage until the present anniversary, and respectfully recommend to the Society his election to that office.

CLOSE OF REV. R. S. COOK'S LABORS AS SECRETARY.

More than nineteen years since, the Rev. Mr. Cook became the Society's successful General Agent for volume circulation, and eighteen years since, in May, 1839, he was elected one of the Corresponding Secretaries. From that time his public life and efficient services have been identified with the Society's interests, as fully appears in the successive Annual Reports, the American Messenger, and its other documents, especially in the department of Colportage, which he was prominently active in introducing into this country.

In March of last year his labors were suddenly interrupted by an attack of rheumatic fever, from which he had so far recovered in May as to sail with his family for Switzerland. In October his health was so much improved that he visited England and Scotland, where he addressed public meetings on the subject of Colportage; but soon after returning to Switzerland, he was attacked with pleurisy, which again prostrated his strength, and increased the doubts he had previously expressed of his being able soon, if ever, to resume his labors for the Society. On the 8th of January, he wrote from Vernex, Switzerland:

"An illness under which I have been suffering for several weeks increased upon me, and finally prostrated me completely. A pain in my right side, especially at night, soon assumed the form of pleurisy. I must content myself with communicating the conviction, that it will be necessary for the Society to provide for the discharge of the duties heretofore assigned to me, at least for another twelve or eighteen months, as if I were not in the land of the living. My constitution is seriously, I fear irretrievably shattered. Should the Committee deem it for the best interests of the Society, that even a nominal official connection should cease, let it be so."

This letter came before the Executive Committee in February, and at their stated meeting in March the Committee felt constrained, in view of the circumstances, to accept his resignation.

GENERAL AGENTS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

LARGE CITIES—Rev. F. Y. Vail, New York city.

CONNECTICUT—Rev. Amos Savage, Hartford.

NEW YORK—Rev. Calvin Foote, Yonkers, Eastern New York ; Rev. Charles Evans, Brooklyn, N. Y., Southern New York and New Jersey.

ROCHESTER AGENCY—Rev. A. M. Stowe, Canandaigua, Western New York ; Mr. O. D. Grosvenor, Depositary and Superintendent, Rochester.

PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH—Rev. N. W. Goertner, D. D., Secretary ; Mr. H. N. Thissell, Superintendent and Depositary, Philadelphia ; Rev. David Malin, Rev. J. R. Keiser, Rev. E. M. Long, Wm. C. Chambers, M. D., Rev. M. Burdett.

VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA—Mr. Jonathan Cross, General Agent and Superintendent, Richmond, Va. ; Rev. M. T. Sumner, Etna, Hanover co., Va. ; Rev. G. W. Kennedy, Latrappe, Md. ; Mr. Wm. J. W. Crowder, Raleigh, N. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND EASTERN FLORIDA—E. L. Kerrison, Esq., Charleston, Superintendent ; Rev. N. Aldrich, Charleston, S. C. ; Rev. Henry Safford, Greensboro, Georgia.

SOUTH-WESTERN AGENCY—WESTERN FLORIDA, ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI, LOUISIANA, ARKANSAS, AND TEXAS—Rev. Randolph A. Smith, New Orleans, General Agent ; L. Alexander Duncan, Superintendent.

TENNESSEE—Rev. Shepherd Wells, Columbia, Tenn.

OHIO—Rev. Franklin Maginnis, Mt. Vernon, Southern Ohio ; Mr. Seely Wood, Cincinnati, Superintendent for Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN AND MINNESOTA—Rev. Yates Hickey, General Agent and Superintendent ; Rev. S. Warren, General Agent and Depositary ; Rev. Thomas Wright, Ypsilanti, Mich.

MISSOURI, ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, AND NEBRASKA—Rev. Charles Peabody, St. Louis, General Agent and Superintendent ; Rev. Glen Wood, Denmark, Iowa ; Rev. Edmund Wright.

The labors of the above general agents and superintendents are reported in connection with the agency in the several large colporteur fields noticed in subsequent pages.

COLPORTAGE.

Five hundred and eighty colporteurs, including the superintendents, and 21 connected with the American Tract Society at Boston, have labored the whole or a part of the year in the service of the Society, in 28 of the United States, Oregon, the Cherokee Nation, Nova Scotia, and the Canadas. In addition to these, 174 students connected with 43 colleges or theological seminaries spent their vacations in efficient service in 18 states and the Canadas. Of the colporteurs, 131, besides a number of the students, labored among the Germans, Irish, French, Norwegians, Swedes, Danes, Welsh, Spanish, and Indians, chiefly among the Germans.

The colporteurs and students, in all 754, were distributed as follows : in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Nova Scotia, and Canada East, in connection with the American Tract Society, Boston, 21 ; Connecticut, 3 ; New York, 90 ; New Jersey, 10 ; Pennsylvania, 112 ; Delaware, 2 ; Maryland, 10 ; Virginia, 57 ; North Carolina, 42 ; South Carolina, 24 ; Georgia, 22 ; Florida, 1 ; Alabama, 12 ; Mississippi, 16 ; Louisiana, 15 ; Texas, 13 ; Arkansas, 10 ; Tennessee, 43 ; Kentucky, 34 ; Ohio, 76 ; Indiana, 24 ; Michigan, 14 ; Illinois, 36 ; Missouri, 18 ; Iowa, 17 ; Wisconsin, 16 ; Oregon, 1 ; Cherokee Nation, 1 ; Canada, 14 : total, 754. Of these, 236 colporteurs, including 83 students, labored in the northern and middle states ; 320 colporteurs, including 43 students, in the southern and south-western ; and 183 colporteurs, including 42 students, in the western and north-western states.

In addition to the above, 50 colporteurs who have recently been commissioned, have not yet reported ; and 34 have been commissioned, whose term of service did not commence until after April 1. The whole number in commission April 1, was 479.

The aggregate time reported by the colporteurs during the year, has been equal to the labors of one man for 3,614 months and 6 days, or more than 301 years. A large part of them have families depending upon them for support. It is a cause of rejoicing that so many husbands and fathers are found willing to deny themselves the comforts and endearments of home and family, that they may carry the truths of the gospel to the families of the poor and destitute ; and it

is no less commendable and gratifying that so many wives and mothers submit uncomplainingly to the separation which deprives them much of the time of the presence and aid of him who is the head, protector, and support of their households. This they do that Christ may be glorified and his cause promoted; but the sacrifice, though too little regarded by the Christian community, is really a great one, and we doubt not will be acknowledged in the great day of award. The claims of their families and other causes have led many colporteurs to suspend their labors for a part of the year, which is regretted, as their continuous and uninterrupted services are needed, and essential to their highest efficiency and usefulness.

In exploring their fields the colporteurs have visited during the year 674,128 families, or nearly one-fifth of the number of families in the United States according to the last census. They have gone to them in the spirit of the apostle, bearing the messages of salvation to the homes of the needy and neglected, testifying in the mansion and in the hovel, by the fireside and by the highway, "repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ." During the last sixteen years, 5,771,780 such family visits have been made by the colporteurs of this Society.

Animated by the impelling motive of love to Christ and love to the souls of men, and desirous that their visits should be of spiritual benefit, they have the past year conversed on the importance of personal religion with the members of 305,425 families, generally uniting with them in prayer for the divine blessing upon the interview. The effect of such a visit from an earnest, sincere Christian cannot be estimated. Often his words of warning and entreaty are the first heard in households where the voice of prayer was never raised, and whose members could truly say, "No man has cared for our souls." Meeting with every variety of character and condition in human experience, his opportunities for usefulness are constant and wide-spread. He is the counsellor, the teacher, and the friend; often pouring the wine and oil of Christian consolation into the wounded heart, and directing the inquiring and the needy to Him who can satisfy every want of the burdened and longing soul.

But not only are these faithful men laboring for the good of individual souls, they exert a wide influence on the public mind. During the year they held or addressed 14,059 public or prayer-meetings, and their words, from glowing hearts, have often stimulated and encouraged Christians with whom they have worshipped. Many of the colporteurs are ministers of the gospel, and often do they gather

the scattered families who are wandering as sheep without a shepherd, and break to them the bread of life for which their souls are famishing. Often have they been invited by pastors to aid them during special outpourings of the Spirit of God, where their labors, accompanied by the books and tracts they have circulated, have been the means of good to multitudes. In gathering and reviving Sabbath-schools, in encouraging the education of children growing up without care or culture, in bringing the neglected under the influences of the sanctuary, in preparing the way for the minister and the house of God, their salutary influence has been widely felt. Many testimonials have been received from pastors to the usefulness of those engaged in this service, whom they justly regard as rendering them efficient and indispensable aid.

It will be seen that among the families visited, 96,335, or one-seventh of the whole number habitually neglected to attend evangelical preaching on the Sabbath, while a large proportion of the remainder attend but occasionally. In the newly settled portions of the country, where from the sparseness of the population the institutions of the gospel have not yet acquired a permanent foothold, this neglect is often owing to causes beyond the control, as it is contrary to the wishes of the families. To such, how grateful is the visit of the colporteur with his load of religious truth from which they can select the rich spiritual treatises of eminent Christians, on which their souls can feast in the absence of the living ministry. It is a lamentable fact, that the larger portion of those reported as neglecting the stated means of grace, are to be found in the northern and middle or the older settled states; and by examining the statistics for the last eight years, during which the colporteurs have reported those thus found, the painful fact appears that the proportion of this class has not materially changed. The whole number of this class of families who have been reported, is 761,056.

The labors among the Roman-catholic portion of our population have been prosecuted with encouraging success. Wherever found, they have been approached with kindness and love, and pointed to the great High-priest who only can forgive sins. Many, especially among German Romanists, through the faithfulness of the colporteurs, have become convinced of their delusion, renounced their errors, and through faith in the blood of the atonement, are now resting upon Christ for salvation. In the reports of many colporteurs who were themselves formerly in the same error, are now recorded many cases of those who, through the divine blessing upon their efforts, have been

guided into the light and liberty of the children of God. The number of Romanists whom the colporteurs visited during the year, was 56,270.

The number of families reported as being destitute of all religious books except the Bible was 41,739, and of those who had not the word of God, 32,175.

By examining the statistics of colportage since it was commenced by the Society, it is seen that it has been an effective agency in supplying the destitution of religious reading. Eleven years ago between one-sixth and one-seventh of the families visited by the colporteurs were reported as destitute of religious reading. Since then, from year to year the proportion has been lessened. Nine years ago it was between one-seventh and one-eighth; six years ago, between one-eighth and one-ninth; three years ago, it was nearly one-eleventh; and the last year only one in sixteen was reported as destitute of all religious books.

The number of books which were sold by colporteurs, averaging them at four for a dollar, was 538,818; making the total circulation during the year 996,358 volumes, and since the formation of the Society, 12,350,169 volumes. The total amount of grants of books and tracts by colporteurs during the year, averaging them at six volumes for a dollar, was 152,822.

The correspondence of the year is full of signal tokens of the divine approval of these efforts for the evangelization of our beloved land, through the agency of a sanctified press. A few of these, in connection with the reports of the eight principal Colporteur Agencies having the supervision of a large portion of those engaged in this service, will be found in subsequent pages. More extended details of the labors of these colporteurs have been printed and widely circulated in the Reports of those respective agencies. A large amount of interesting and encouraging facts still remain, accumulating more rapidly than we can find place for them in the public press, or in the documents of the Society. But they are all treasured up and recorded—no labors expended, or results accomplished for Christ, will be lost.

Two Colporteur Conventions have been held within the year, at Goldsboro, N. C., and Augusta, Georgia, which are reported under the Virginia and Charleston Agencies.

Three of the colporteurs have been removed from the field of their earthly labors by death: Dea. Elnathan Galpin, who for more than six years was extensively useful through his pious labors upon the Western Reserve, Ohio; Mr. Thomas Capern of New Jersey, of whom

his pastor says, "His death was sudden, but we feel assured that sudden death for him was sudden glory; he was a good man, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith;" and Rev. Elizur Butler, M. D., long a missionary among the Cherokees.

With all the trials and privations of the colporteur work, there is much occasion for gratitude to God that so many warm-hearted, self-denying men have been raised up to engage in it from year to year, at so small an earthly reward. One hundred and fifty dollars per annum has been the usual salary. Experience in the work, or superior qualifications, and of late the increased expense of living, have been reasons for increasing the sum in many instances to \$200. In the year ending March 1, 1857, the records of the Committee show that 292 were commissioned or had their commissions renewed at \$150, and 271 at \$200. In other cases, a somewhat larger sum is allowed, especially to those who labor in cities or large towns, and pay their own board and other expenses. Besides the salary, \$50 per annum is allowed for the use of a conveyance, and travelling expenses are paid.

The Committee record with joy and thanksgiving these brief results; and after the statistical tables they proceed to give a more full and striking view of the Colporteur work, chiefly in condensed reports of the eight principal colporteur agencies established at prominent centres throughout the country, which cannot fail to cheer the heart of every friend of Zion. A fire of love to the Redeemer and to precious souls, a single-hearted consecration to this service, an energy and self-denial, a prayerful trust in God overcoming obstacles and pressing onward to win new trophies from the dark domains of sin, to shine in the firmament of heaven for ever and ever—breathe in the reports of the superintendents, general agents, and colporteurs, that it would seem must have been kindled by the Holy Spirit in answer to believing prayer, the same Spirit who has given them to hear songs of salvation from hundreds new-born into the kingdom of Christ. One spirit seems to animate the hearts of the *two hundred and thirty-six* colporteurs and students in the northern and middle states, the *one hundred and eighty-three* in the western and north-western states, and the *three hundred and twenty* in the southern and south-western states; and who does not feel that could these and other kindred evangelizing efforts go on, the chains of darkness and sin may be broken, and our moral wilderness truly bud and blossom as the rose.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857

COLPORTEURS WHOSE NAMES ARE IN ITALICS CONTINUE THEIR LABORS.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families destitute of Bible.	Families Room.	Families habitually neglecting even preaching.	Families converted or praying with.	Whole number Families visited.	REMARKS.
	NEW ENGLAND.	M. D.										
American Tract Society, Boston	Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Nova Scotia, and Canada, 21 colporteurs	82 20	37,718	5,659	331	1,076	819	1,938	6,152	14,005	22,748	
	CONNECTICUT.											
Stephen K. Farris	Fairfield	17	219	26				57		16	233	
D. G. Humphrey	Litchfield	3	1,192	43			2	78	61	430	1,320	
	EASTERN NEW YORK.											
August Ackert	New York city	8 22	352	172	25	230	191	376	305	1,546	3,406	German population.
Frank Bessie	"	12	779	574		202	52	772	400	232	4,452	"
J. F. Braun	Williamaburg	7	609	425		55	37	252	477	1,150	2,642	"
E. S. Bronson	Columbia	2 5	261	58				10	107	107	450	"
J. Bullivant	Sullivan	2 5	264	58	5	30	25	35	75	65	250	"
Robert Burhans	Ulster	4 4	1,298	440	15	36	37	43	3	1,901	1,257	"
C. Cooper	Albany	3 11	223	47	8	63	26	9	73	242	348	"
Thomas Curtis	Long Island	3	81	62				28		504	921	"
Daniel Dierstein	New York city	11	717	512	71	349	52	605	542	645	3,705	German population.
J. J. Ebert	Ulster	11 25	2,360	380	80	22	34	127	61	1,879	1,951	"
Louis Euler	Buffalo and Williamsburg	4 21	351	126	9	63	57	350	82	540	909	German population.
C. W. Leipzig	New York city	12	1,030	334	13	95	105	588	1,001	2,045	3,677	"
Kraemer Munia	Brooklyn	5	322	178	9	164	67	303	435	370	1,201	"
Wm. Murdoch	New York city	12	923	348	50	120	482	104	130	130	715	Irish population.
Rev. J. J. Riegenback	"	12	47	6	24	10	5	6	95	20	33	German population.
Jacob Schanzel	Troy and Schenectady	12	1,444	449	32	165	107	175	226	325	2,157	"
John Stahle	New York city	1	133				44	154			601	"
John Wetker	"	12	1,323	651	12	326	175	1,119	2,843	4,143	4,412	German pop., 130 vessels.
Arthur B. Welch	"	2 25	444	88	59						450	Seamen.
	NORTHERN AND WESTERN NEW YORK.											
O. D. Grosvenor		19										Superintendent.
Elias Arnold	Oswego	12	2,543	204	57	6	6	51	510	1,208	4,791	"
Peter Boardley	Cattaraugus	11	1,537	334	60	86	62	74	322	1,620	2,040	"

<i>Current Boston</i>	11	1,349	308	73	141	52	7	327	1,408	1,002
<i>James Beaghton</i>	6	1,033	363	17	110	110	28	105	1,003	2,706
<i>Hawcoer Bradley</i>	13	1,006	485	89	1,315	763	674	1,744	1,034	1,034
<i>O. A. Cooper</i>	3	464	101	9	11	18	12	60	3,743	3,743
<i>G. A. Dillingham</i>	11	2,019	305	11	54	171	203	219	478	478
<i>Justis Dwyer</i>	11	1,519	394	111	1	11	266	65	3,069	3,069
<i>H. A. Foster</i>	13	1,318	361	73	1	5	30	62	German population.	5,330
<i>H. Frankfort</i>	13	1,070	367	73	1	5	30	62	German population.	2,274
<i>Wm. Gay</i>	13	765	404	15	599	641	1,344	307	German population.	4,013
<i>Ed. Gutzmer</i>	13	966	268	86	340	336	448	2,036	German population.	2,368
<i>Tobias Hamman</i>	3	236	93	136	110	21	129	233	German population.	433
<i>S. B. Haddock</i>	6	1,073	237	53	2	23	34	55	German population.	1,334
<i>S. B. Haddock</i>	7	1,073	237	53	2	23	34	55	German population.	1,334
<i>Chas. Hain</i>	7	1,073	237	53	2	23	34	55	German population.	1,334
<i>F. J. Hesse</i>	7	1,073	237	53	2	23	34	55	German population.	1,334
<i>E. J. Hudson</i>	7	1,073	237	53	2	23	34	55	German population.	1,334
<i>Charles Keeler</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>James Letts</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>S. B. Macomber</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>Wm. Morris</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>Lewis Paine</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>T. F. Richards</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>James Root</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>W. A. Simmons</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>D. D. Stronbridge</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>Seymour Vincent</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>J. Wenz</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
<i>F. S. Wood</i>	10	1,732	320	49	1,374	671	693	1,117	German population.	1,854
NEW JERSEY.										
<i>Thomas Capern</i>	1	645	54	2	1	6	10	45	437 Deceased.	437
<i>Henry Haller</i>	11	781	364	37	192	947	643	892	German population.	4,476
<i>James Heston</i>	13	154	9	1	1	1	3	20	German population.	261
<i>Adam Miller</i>	13	932	355	1	195	183	231	1,149	German population.	3,590
<i>Wm. C. Paterson</i>	3	486	140	11	54	14	21	76	German population.	965
<i>Caleb J. Perkins</i>	3	486	140	11	54	14	21	76	German population.	965
<i>Salem and Cumberland</i>	3	486	140	11	54	14	21	76	German population.	965
<i>Bergen, Passaic, and Morris</i>	11	3,131	106	54	21	21	29	91	German population.	2,450
PENNSYLVANIA.										
<i>H. N. Thissell</i>	13	9	1,768	590	19	106	49	158	Superintendent.	1,785
<i>Thomas Bakes</i>	10	9	1,768	590	19	106	49	158	German and English.	1,785
<i>J. Bixler</i>	3	340	54	46	2	63	304	304	German and English.	304
<i>H. A. Bolick</i>	7	3	1,198	604	31	27	68	91	German and English.	2,313
<i>Rev. J. O. Boswell</i>	3	298	326	9	66	11	67	78	German and English.	1,015
<i>James Boyd</i>	2	505	56	3	11	13	3	96	German and English.	294
<i>Edward Boyer</i>	2	505	56	3	11	13	3	96	German and English.	294

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir- tute of religious books.	Families desir- tute of Bible.	Families Rom. Catholic.	Families habit- ually neglecting even, preach &c.	Families con- verted or pray- ing with.	Whole number families visited.	REMARKS.
PENNSYLVANIA—Continued.												
Thomas Brynes	Philadelphia	12	1,154	197	10	87	490	543	683	4,414		
W. R. Carpenter	Wilmington	9 15	387	125	50	98	50	124	774			
J. E. Cathcart	Wilmington	5 15	1,268	277	45	38	57	65	123	706		
J. T. Chambers	Crawford	12	3,136	609	47	57	26	48	489	2,771		German and English.
Amos Cline	Cumtland	12	9,174	444	31	54	93	75	304	2,768		"
W. Y. Cramer	Bucks and Lehigh	10 4	2,338	812	26	12	42	129	2,190	2,922		
R. T. Crawford	Indiana	1	111	64	3	2	97	907	1,349	1,597		
Rev. J. W. Davis	Harrisburg	6 15	359	147	37	3	49	79	1,071	1,120		207 Steam-boats.
Robert Davis	Pittsburg	7 15	926	345	39	10	33	14	9	485		German and English.
J. J. Decker	Northampton	1 8	185	66	2	8	10	10	16	633		
Levi Dole	Washington	3 8	769	72	91	11	10	10	16	633		
J. G. Drake	Erie	7 5	997	273	42	68	94	159	781	1,127		
Martin Evans	York	12	1,832	706	71	219	233	113	290	1,877		German population.
J. P. Ewing	Alleghany	1	178	35	70	9	15	44	180	2,312		
L. Eichenback	Lancaster	11 4	1,412	706	23	121	224	382	1,694	2,630		German population.
Jonathan Focht	Blair and Huntingdon	11	3,784	372	10	10	14	195	1,948	2,713		German and English.
Henry Gathers	Clinton and Centre	10 14	3,254	630	3	45	37	44	1,604	2,900		
E. Q. Greenleaf	Bradford	3 20	660	407	12	15	10	57	21	321		
Jacob Harter	Centre	6 11	884	88	3	70	9	31	316	611		German and English.
John Hauck	Pittsburg and vicinity	12	892	989	21	25	2,460	2,758	3,147	4,294		German population.
David Hill	Berks	14	33	6	19	5	25	44	46	128		German and English.
George Ingwick	Leuzerne	10 11	1,105	129	34	1	283	105	1,149	5,812		"
C. Kallenbach	Shenandoah	5 8	505	43	52	1	27	94	895	937		"
J. Lawrence	Chester	3 1	1,483	171	8	119	61	466	1,892	2,202		German and English.
George Lewis	Warren and McKean	10 16	1,974	1,113	65	133	106	21	154	681		
J. G. Loar	Greene	3 15	439	85	45	133	106	21	154	681		
S. S. Long	Bucks	6	50	63	4	9	17	1	486	545		German and English.
H. Maddock	Bucks	9 19	369	53	3	32	30	55	1,167	1,583		
H. Magriffin	Clarion	6 14	1,647	518	3	1	13	496	518	496		German and English.
S. Martin	Chester	9 2	208	125	1	31	19	54	375	518		
Alex. McRea	Chester	12	1,836	466	21	31	19	54	375	518		
Wm. McCall	Butler	2 15	370	115	5	144	176	144	436	436		
D. McConnell	Lawrence	1	92	47	16	199	23	244	144	176		
S. W. McDaniel	Leuzerne	2 14	439	82	16	199	23	244	144	176		
E. McGinnis	Alleghany and Butler	2 8	49	7	13	13	13	13	13	13		

Robert Moffat	9	2	949	394	119	59	144	218	1,053	1,571	German and English.
C. R. B. Morris	4	14	946	104	3	3	90	142	362	714	German and English.
J. Moser	1	4	192	92	6	94	90	7	123	300	German and English.
James Mordock	12	1	1,081	503	40	70	1,151	1,741	3,811	4,800	German and English.
Schuykill	1	1	258	45	---	---	---	---	14	525	"
J. Peterson	5	7	814	118	20	73	77	16	189	924	"
J. Petty	10	1	1,850	888	1	461	68	73	1,583	3,248	Swedes, Danes, Norwegians.
John Potter	12	1	988	312	30	146	7	56	239	584	German and English.
Allegany and Beaver	13	1	693	194	10	38	16	30	40	285	"
Henry Potter	3	17	693	194	10	38	16	30	40	285	"
Allegany	11	16	1,993	885	57	213	66	36	444	741	"
Warren, McKean, and Potter	11	16	1,993	885	57	213	66	36	444	741	"
George Reiter	6	19	589	318	23	3	18	9	323	571	"
Dauphin	3	19	589	318	23	3	18	9	323	571	"
Tioga	6	19	589	318	23	3	18	9	323	571	"
Rev. J. B. Reynolds	3	19	589	318	23	3	18	9	323	571	"
D. Ridgway	12	1	1,798	131	16	12	39	6	1,948	1,718	"
Bradford and Sullivan	4	6	746	524	---	---	---	---	449	1,237	"
Snarehanna	7	94	5,927	772	51	33	32	13	1,942	1,452	German and English.
Junata and Perry	9	16	1,754	431	14	30	27	64	361	1,317	"
D. H. Seaford	6	11	1,039	321	32	126	66	107	154	1,859	German and English.
John Schmidt	2	21	455	73	11	33	45	65	108	361	"
Philadelphia	8	12	1,943	600	56	93	63	166	501	1,808	"
D. S. Scott	3	17	731	35	---	---	---	---	732	1,341	"
Fulton and Huntington	11	1	2,472	1,223	47	187	93	131	805	1,900	"
Wayne and Pike	3	17	714	140	6	101	71	31	94	1,657	German and English.
Bath	2	18	674	198	2	53	30	9	172	583	"
Midlin	4	11	37	12	---	---	---	---	62	84	"
Alleghany	4	7	474	76	---	---	---	---	311	2,373	German and English.
Germanstown	5	8	571	94	6	10	311	35	365	1,132	"
F. A. Thibault	4	10	1,327	670	30	40	52	---	698	633	German population.
Cambrria	1	12	1194	52	---	---	---	---	160	237	"
Lebanon	9	1	1,199	538	3	14	85	42	612	679	German and English.
Jacob Weavers	1	7	274	51	---	---	---	---	60	163	"
J. M. Wilson	10	14	1,139	545	1	223	63	126	922	2,327	"
Armstrong	4	25	463	203	51	161	77	1	132	1,357	"
Northampton and Munroe	5	26	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	"
M. Wolf	9	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	"
Washington	1	7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	"
DELAWARE.	10	14	1,139	545	1	223	63	126	922	2,327	"
Newcastle	4	25	463	203	51	161	77	1	132	1,357	"
Sussex	5	26	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	"
MARYLAND.	9	15	1,822	223	70	1,160	302	838	1,718	2,940	"
Baltimore	9	15	1,822	223	70	1,160	302	838	1,718	2,940	"
Rev. Thomas Barrow	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
George N. Crespy	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
James James	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
Somerset and Worcester	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
Rev. M. Jewell	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
Montgomery and Howard	9	15	744	170	6	---	---	---	---	---	"
J. M. Keyer	10	15	887	398	30	186	577	482	898	1,927	German population.
Baltimore	10	15	887	398	30	186	577	482	898	1,927	German population.
Rev. James Robertson	10	15	887	398	30	186	577	482	898	1,927	German population.
"	10	15	887	398	30	186	577	482	898	1,927	German population.
Charles Traits	12	1	673	501	4	120	545	535	792	641	German population.
VIRGINIA.	34	26	898	4,071	168	---	---	---	---	---	Superintendent.
J. Cross and Assistant	8	26	910	602	57	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rev. J. J. Allen	8	26	910	602	57	---	---	---	---	---	---
Taylor	8	26	910	602	57	---	---	---	---	---	---

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families destitute of Bible.	Families Roman Catholics.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preaching.	Families converted with.	Whole number families visited.	REMARKS.
VIRGINIA—Continued.												
Rev. R. W. Berryman	Surry and Isle of Wight	M. D. 11	1,062	282	73	6	—	—	12	562	627	
J. E. Broadick	Accomac	4	357	67	33	7	16	—	5	295	327	
Rev. Edmund Christian	Washington and Alexandria	5	349	245	—	32	147	237	240	506	3,037	
J. C. Clifton	Orange	9	2,520	598	10	44	36	—	—	279	1,039	
Rev. H. K. Craig	Brooke	1	210	49	—	11	9	6	10	62	311	
Rev. J. S. Crostide	Fluvanna	2	258	27	5	3	2	—	—	37	149	
H. Curry	Stafford	4	454	89	14	53	31	—	32	186	447	
E. Curriell	Norfolk and Portsmouth	11	1,705	919	65	25	53	167	96	795	1,515	167 vessels visited.
Rev. Wm. M. Demoss	Preston	3	233	246	5	21	54	33	49	180	797	
T. W. Edwards	Hanover	1	255	43	—	5	1	—	—	74	113	
Rev. James Glendening	Marion	6	741	286	46	85	77	86	62	476	678	
Rev. S. Glendening	Barbour	1	142	61	5	—	—	—	28	31	367	
L. D. Hager	Boone	2	176	114	7	52	41	4	57	73	367	
S. Harper	Upshur and Randolph	7	727	117	—	43	28	—	39	196	1,088	
Rev. B. Hardman	Roan and Jackson	12	1,303	343	102	79	65	36	122	999	1,773	
Rev. J. W. Howe	Shenandoah	5	622	230	40	24	31	5	39	122	762	
Rev. Levi Hubble	Wythe and Pulaski	10	20	655	133	97	113	46	10	153	961	
Geo. Huffman	Rockingham	8	6	825	162	72	115	33	6	91	1,357	
Samuel Idkins	Bedford	4	25	746	51	12	8	11	67	110	500	
J. W. Ingo	London	2	660	136	12	—	—	—	—	42	353	
Rev. Wm. E. Logan	Highland	4	456	192	9	—	—	—	—	135	207	
Rev. P. Lowther	Wayne	7	713	594	90	204	152	3	103	401	846	
E. Lonsford	Caroline	3	15	437	18	5	45	10	13	71	215	
Rev. S. H. Martin	Lee	12	23	783	185	98	64	1	89	64	1,900	
J. E. McSparran	Northumberland	9	10	1,145	352	14	40	46	1	37	637	
Rev. Wm. H. Mitchell	Fauquier	8	2	569	93	63	5	2	5	513	621	
Rev. L. C. Newman	Richmond	2	8	30	235	—	181	43	28	656	734	
H. W. Owen	Annelis	7	3	895	163	43	1	—	—	337	462	
J. E. Perry	Wyoming	1	20	147	37	9	7	14	7	30	164	
R. J. Pryor	Bedford	6	15	839	409	—	64	89	7	63	262	
Rev. H. Rager	Wetzel	3	10	225	129	10	15	6	25	100	470	
L. D. Reichman	—	1	20	221	14	18	28	10	5	18	100	
Solomon Recond	Gilmore and Ritchie	0	19	663	923	48	38	17	10	39	547	
W. F. Reynolds	Appomattox and Buckingham	7	15	1,222	293	5	55	31	1	29	1,036	
C. J. Rippetoes	Kanawha	1	10	146	45	6	2	—	1	50	231	

										General Agent.	
S. M. Ross	11	20	1,970	745	2	64	61	8	21	321	896
C. R. Ross	11	20	2,497	973	43	33	70	9	103	569	969
O. M. T. Semuels	8	811	356	53	131	29	84	84	105	573	958
S. Scott	4	223	84	292	20	27	27	27	23	104	798
A. L. Strango	6	817	419	251	7	11	8	8	204	729	925
Rev. W. Tinsley	7	15	690	251	7	11	8	8	118	167	878
L. F. Thompson	16	110	68	92	9	40	38	6	190	275	118
Rev. H. Trent	2	6	150	92	9	40	38	6	190	275	118
Rev. A. G. Walker	3	569	146	9	3	6	6	6	28	250	958
Rev. W. G. Warren	7	464	141	33	3	3	5	2	1	193	533
Rev. W. J. Witherington	3	239	56	40	7	2	2	2	71	245	71
Rev. A. Wood	8	15	524	223	70	60	8	2	184	560	890
Rev. A. Woodard	7	5	1,456	298	34	14	16	8	16	466	831
NORTH CAROLINA.											
W. J. W. Crowder	13	675	893	64	217	81	7	169	1,358	1,894	1,894
J. N. Andrews	12	4,058	1,415	4	101	13	122	122	289	985	2,814
W. G. Beard	12	1,568	242	105	171	64	124	124	1,441	1,539	1,539
Rev. E. K. Blanton	11	10	968	961	24	27	3	401	910	910	910
Rev. J. R. Blanton	11	13	965	428	114	55	28	1	92	943	1,221
Rev. W. J. Blanton	4	20	327	181	18	61	92	10	935	498	498
L. C. Brooks	2	9	213	87	19	47	19	2	189	307	307
S. H. Brooks	7	25	778	271	89	64	130	130	1,124	1,124	1,124
J. Cain	10	18	1,349	789	80	94	41	1	158	894	1,016
Rev. S. Callaway	4	28	554	183	32	139	82	6	356	418	418
C. A. Curtis	3	23	967	305	3	60	49	4	50	189	454
J. F. Corbie	3	23	321	21	33	33	21	17	160	170	160
Rev. Wm. Dalton	3	146	36	11	17	10	13	13	185	274	274
Rev. G. W. Farabee	5	21	967	319	69	36	18	40	353	692	692
C. Gastaway	3	295	42	6	88	18	12	93	213	213	213
Rev. Eli Grimes	2	24	297	161	13	142	68	35	98	348	348
Rev. Philip Grimes	3	13	331	210	20	160	50	1	162	597	597
Rev. A. F. Harris	8	15	1,753	1,051	90	527	252	158	978	1,259	1,259
Rev. J. W. Heath	1	1	76	33	2	2	75	75	110	110	110
T. E. Hine	3	14	241	66	16	12	5	5	137	498	498
Rev. J. Holland	2	125	98	5	16	11	12	12	62	97	97
Rev. J. A. Hugries	3	338	142	15	7	8	1	1	131	104	104
Rev. A. Justice	5	17	452	106	83	54	62	19	131	689	689
Rev. M. Kestel	3	29	196	167	26	1	1	17	102	102	102
Wm. C. Kestel	4	16	584	398	5	13	19	6	131	413	413
Rev. Paul Kistler	3	20	332	120	60	43	32	59	296	442	442
J. H. Laton	12	151	436	42	94	33	13	13	754	833	833
Rev. B. Lawrence	5	10	390	131	17	77	13	13	1,057	1,405	1,405
Rev. J. F. Malet	19	11	1,299	824	42	63	21	1	1,640	2,237	2,237
Rev. J. H. Mauley	9	11	963	102	23	7	7	38	350	350	350
B. S. Moore	2	16	529	26	13	41	7	3	81	250	250
R. A. Moore	7	16	894	411	3	61	28	26	461	604	604

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families destitute of Bibles.	Families Roman Catholic.	Families habitually neglecting evangel. preach'g.	Families converted or praying with.	Whole number of families visited.	REMARKS.
NORTH CAROLINA—Continued.												
Rev. C. K. Parker	Craven	D. M.	782	190	14	—	—	—	—	1	188	491
W. L. P. Smith	Franklin	3	232	69	26	39	7	—	—	—	66	208
Rev. G. S. Smith	Alexandria	1	139	65	4	17	17	—	—	—	145	360
Rev. D. W. Thompson	Alamance and Orange	6	1,559	623	69	66	46	—	28	—	712	1,063
W. W. Thornton	Forsythe	7	559	353	13	181	49	—	194	—	535	734
J. M. Watson	Hyde	2	592	166	13	91	56	—	13	—	188	479
M. L. Waller	Halifax	1	353	74	3	81	36	—	32	—	187	200
Rev. J. W. Whitfield	Nash	7	629	78	24	33	9	—	27	—	280	408
W. Womack	Catawba	4	362	119	—	90	88	—	—	—	169	510
E. B. Yarborough	Sampson	5	591	430	8	45	29	1	36	—	545	900
SOUTH CAROLINA.												
E. L. Kerrison	Abbeville District	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Superintendent.
Rev. R. F. Babb	Barwell	5	1,417	545	7	69	28	—	38	—	277	533
Rev. R. F. Berry	Lawrence	2	348	141	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	132
G. L. Brown	Beaufort	4	389	169	61	7	1	—	—	—	133	323
H. Crook	Charleston	2	407	63	7	10	—	—	3	—	98	223
Wm. Davis	Fairfield District	12	2,107	837	10	554	101	—	102	—	302	1,588
Wm. H. Jones	Harvey	5	921	294	—	—	—	—	17	—	330	1,539
Rev. D. H. Kestemur	Pickens	1	6	114	10	13	12	—	10	—	36	85
T. P. Kirtion	Marion	9	906	610	58	93	86	—	91	—	383	923
Isaac Lawrence	Barnwell	9	1,22	302	34	—	—	—	10	—	30	70
E. H. Mellichamp	Charleston	12	1,663	338	1	44	50	—	3	—	246	439
A. M. Noble	Laurens	2	177	40	13	12	11	—	2	—	257	2,056
Rev. J. R. Proffitt	Horry District	7	1,297	308	63	5	11	—	10	—	75	130
G. W. Reese	Spartanburg District	3	578	182	98	34	17	—	37	—	45	371
Rev. J. M. Runion	Greenville	8	1,168	361	78	15	15	—	—	—	526	602
J. B. Sanders	Anderson	2	301	80	1	14	9	—	4	—	15	76
John Smith	Colleton	3	121	45	20	15	14	—	6	—	37	230
R. W. Todd	Greenville	12	1,530	485	—	18	23	—	37	—	751	1,233
E. J. Webb	Colleton	5	775	69	12	95	28	2	8	—	98	446
GEORGIA.												
J. A. Baird	Effingham	3	498	86	—	10	8	—	2	—	26	770
J. D. Boggs	Effingham	12	973	639	70	149	57	32	62	—	1,671	1,594

Rev. Type Chapm	8	6	1,943	447	18	448	19	186	671	1,073
Henry, Fayette, and Pike	12	1,466	118	118	28	28	13	43	338	451
Hart, Ebert, and Madison	12	1,466	118	118	28	28	13	43	338	451
Cobb and adjoining	12	2,816	703	104	187	187	51	303	339	1,257
Hancock and Washington	6 18	781	428	16	92	92	60	94	305	985
Green and Hancock	2 1	238	63	70	19	19	7	30	97	601
Spaulding and Coweta	3 1	383	77	43	17	17	7	30	266	148
Putnam	1 12	274	103	17	17	17	7	30	266	645
Franklin	5 9	630	52	19	15	15	7	30	266	85
Early and Decatur	12	2,699	1,171	139	415	134	39	278	1,792	2,517
Newton and DeKalb	9 5	1,207	296	42	37	15	10	54	254	568
Clark, Jackson, and Walton	2 16	353	90	11	15	11	12	38	38	595
Muscoe and Stewart	12	1,907	510	12	25	39	7	46	412	1,010
Gilmer and Fanning	3	355	112	39	25	19	18	35	270	501
Taliaferro and Warren	2 10	383	55	19	2	4	113	124	113	124
Cherokee and Pickens	4 11	433	250	116	141	59	22	95	219	319
Central and Macon, and Western Railroad	2 191	42	20	5	6	3	8	30	55	55
Lawrence, Twiggs, and Wilkinson	4 15	112	230	1	6	1	2	98	290	290
Richmond	1 1	199	55	1	1	7	8	7	12	110
Cass and Cherokee	2 6	370	21	10	11	1	1	19	19	609
FLORIDA.										
Pensacola and vicinity	2 16	341	185	2	15	44	34	28	103	294
ALABAMA.										
Mobile city and bay	3 13	464	123	39	28	28	44	32	176	329
Dale and Henry	4 26	687	54	73	10	7	1	205	205	653
Nadon	2 4	419	110	127	127	127	127	69	137	137
Pickens	3 27	372	127	127	127	127	127	84	533	533
Nongomery	7 15	518	232	44	5	4	28	52	52	52
Mobile city and bay	3 15	958	296	7	74	38	112	196	314	594
Franklin	2 561	24	5	49	38	14	94	6	85	85
DeKalb and Cherokee	2 22	250	121	16	5	5	125	440	440	440
Benton and Randolph	8 22	942	111	25	2	6	1	230	453	453
Bibb, Shelby, and Jefferson	27	26	5	5	2	2	1	230	453	453
MISSISSIPPI.										
Simpson and Copiah	2 12	462	63	3	5	5	13	145	145	145
Lauderdale and Newton	1 10	290	7	3	1	1	6	16	16	197
Brandon	3 10	365	129	47	7	3	6	137	160	160
Chickasaw and Calhoun	6 12	747	363	14	12	5	315	645	645	645
Pontotoc and Itawamba	1 13	103	27	25	3	2	9	7	77	77
Winston and Neshoba	28	111	10	5	3	2	14	9	24	24
G. N. Railroad	28	111	10	5	3	2	14	9	24	24
Winston	28	111	10	5	3	2	14	9	24	24

Partly in Texas.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTER.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir- ing of religious books.	Families desir- ing of Bible.	Catholics.	Families habit- ually neglecting even, prayer &c.	Families con- verted or pray- ed with.	Whole number families visited.	REMARKS.
MISSISSIPPI—Continued.												
N. W. King	Lefayette and Calhoun	M. D.	732	296	15	17	10		27	300	581	
M. T. Miller	Yallobusha	5 21	60	30								
Rev. F. C. Pearson	De Soto and Marshall	8	167	19	4	6	4		2	80	108	
Rev. E. M. Richardson	Lauderdale	1	221	28	4							
Rev. E. R. Strickland		1 15	194	43	20						60	
R. T. Tate	Choctaw	11 24	2,510	309	55	43	35	3	10	162	733	
Dr. C. F. Van Hook	Madison and Leake	15	109	6								
LOUISIANA.												
L. A. Duncan	Washington parish	12	198									Superintendent.
Duncan Bros.	Washington parish	2	198	38				7		51	194	
F. Hannas	Carrollton, etc.	1 24	324	30			115	116	1	77	1,130	German population.
C. G. D. Holle		13										" "
J. Kappeler	Jefferson City	9	1,172	199			84	939	76	1,305	4,424	" "
D. H. Miller	Carrollton	27	9	5				419		382	9,504	" "
F. Naderman	Algiers, etc.	5	553	52								German pop., 1,268 boats.
Rev. Henry Nabring	New Orleans	6 2	2,600	296	98	5	2	84	2	89	4,536	" "
F. H. K. O'Brien	"	3 20	322	22	45	4	10	2,456	2,565	130	6,166	" "
Christianus Pangel	"	8 24	1,099	118		3	18	4	3	31	130	" "
Rev. J. L. Simpson	Baton Rouge	1 12	209	10	22	3	10	2,917	3,965	379	7,196	German population.
I. F. Toebelman	New Orleans	9 21	1,441	154	9	38	101	9	11	67	129	" "
Rev. U. B. Vining	West Feliciana	2 28	208	13	9	2	1	903		340	1,147	German, French, and Span.
M. W. Wagner		1	158	43	57	49	2			153	380	
Rev. Geo. H. Washington	Washington and Livingston	3 18	418	68	57	56	57	6	72			Assistant Superintendent.
TEXAS.												
Rev. Archibald McCorkle	Titus and Cass	15	517	96								
Rev. J. Anderson		1 10	362	130								
D. W. Burk	Lamar, Hopkins, and Hunt	3 11	309	97		3				32	99	
H. B. W. Burns	Colorado valley	1 18	194	36	23	41	6		20	59	108	German and French.
Julius Hays Jacob		11 7	2,361	693		496	1	9	450	832	1,393	German population.
H. A. G. Heyer	Guadalupe valley	3 18	882	233	19	78	32	25	62	945	366	German and English.
Rev. C. F. Munson	Lamar and Grayson	1 15	939	37	13	33	9	5	8	57	95	
Rev. W. A. Provins	Austin	3 7	694	86	33	8	4	10	35	96	290	German population.
C. A. Weinhold	Collin	3 27	303	32	4	160	33		8	63	933	
Rev. W. B. West		2	618	79	9							

Rev. J. Yarnes	Matagorda	2 17	438	221	59	14	16	18	31	129	163
Rev. E. Templeton	Wood	5 4	526	221	27	18	18	82	389	410	German and English.
ARKANSAS.											
Rev. Eliezer Butler, M. D.	Crawford	1 21	254	44	33	35	2	1	68	98	Deceased.
Rev. Geo. N. Clappitt	Southern Arkansas	1 2	172	73	33	4	1	14	44	58	
Rev. J. E. Davis	Little Rock and vicinity	5 6	1,098	109	11	42	39	27	33	433	569
Rev. J. E. Daniel	Madison and Carroll	7 23	1,713	194	14	39	69	1	162	1,184	
W. R. Douglas	Sebastian	3 28	616	98	38	128	67	11	179	188	723
Rev. J. B. Groves	Phillips	6 23	1,026	218	190	98	19	2	25	393	439
C. F. L. Hense	Sebastian	1	807	13	2	42	2	40	20	316	German and English.
TENNESSEE.											
G. A. Alexander	Milton and vicinity	2 8	213	63	9	13	---	6	4	290	
Rev. J. N. Blackburn	Polk	2 23	200	66	---	---	---	---	---	---	
T. R. Bialock	Hardiman	2 18	197	13	14	54	15	68	50	254	
J. W. Blasing	Memphis and vicinity	2 2	1,266	133	6	34	19	31	78	788	
G. W. Chennault	McNairy	2 24	114	9	53	11	5	2	75	210	
G. M. Crawford	Franklin	7	1,183	112	66	28	1	36	197	928	
Rev. J. Crawford	Coffee and Grundy	6 1	1,375	146	67	159	41	10	206	414	512
J. R. Dean	Knox	1	100	115	---	---	---	---	---	---	Exploring Agent.
J. A. De La Vergne	East Tennessee	9	368	132	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Rev. Wm. Ellis	Stewart	4 18	275	95	90	---	---	---	---	---	
Wm. R. Ellison	Green	2 17	627	109	84	29	---	8	267	375	544
Rev. A. M. Gillespie	Lawrence and Wayne	2 24	147	21	21	1	---	1	11	23	375
Rev. G. P. Hastings	Rutherford	3 15	626	175	35	38	5	4	54	304	304
Rev. James Kinsames	Hardin and Hardman	3 9	433	150	30	8	2	3	231	922	9,275
Rev. Fred Lock	Haywood and Lauderdale	4 26	523	103	48	59	8	53	394	470	470
W. R. Magee	Giles	3 4	502	112	24	10	4	2	81	170	170
Wm. A. Mackles	Jackson and Cooke	3 4	270	31	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Thomas Money	Hawkins	5 17	457	122	120	---	---	---	---	---	
Rev. Wm. Money	Hamilton	5 25	995	325	1	2	14	6	440	1,889	1,889
W. C. Murdison	Madison	5 25	122	7	3	1	---	---	---	---	309
Rev. J. H. Patterson	Rutherford	1 21	330	61	17	24	10	1	14	55	134
Rev. Robert Ritchey	DeKalb	1 11	324	45	17	24	10	1	402	307	1,068
A. G. Shelton	DeKalb	8	1,553	519	8	257	169	---	---	---	1,068
D. M. Smith	Monroe and McMicken	15	94	38	2	3	---	---	---	---	44
Rev. J. R. Smotherman	Bedford	3 19	529	166	---	---	---	---	---	---	274
Rev. R. H. Snoddy	Blount and Knox	8	243	26	1	12	10	9	36	36	36
T. J. Terry	Sumner	1 15	131	18	---	---	---	---	---	---	12
Rev. J. P. Weed	Obion	9	122	14	3	---	---	---	---	---	9
Rev. L. E. Wiley	Lincoln	2 21	561	70	---	---	---	---	---	---	370
Howell Williams	Marshall	4 25	403	147	21	34	42	1	52	241	241
Rev. Lewis Whitaker	Fentress and Morgan	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
KENTUCKY.											
Rev. G. W. Arnold	Bracken	1 16	226	99	25	10	17	14	169	257	257
Rev. M. Armstrong	Rockcastle and Madison	5 16	521	194	36	---	---	---	---	---	376

STATISTICS OF COLPORTEGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer-meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families destitute of Bible.	Families Roman Catholics.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preaching.	Families converted with.	Whole number families visited.	REMARKS.
KENTUCKY—Continued.												
Rev. J. R. Barber	Harrison	3 15	390	45	55	13	—	—	4	45	65	
Rev. H. G. Barnett	Munroe and Allen	4 15	710	126	39	23	60	—	—	115	222	
Rev. J. Dever	Cathie	1 30	251	58	1	—	2	—	—	116	209	
Rev. S. S. Duval	Hopkins and Henderson	3 25	930	310	20	—	—	—	1	748	1,246	
Charles Fridman	Covington and Newport	3 25	908	192	22	176	38	656	402	1,644	3,151	German population.
Z. M. P. Frazer	Barton	4	632	87	10	11	13	1	—	—	501	
H. Gregory	Gracy and Calloway	4	255	346	—	18	17	—	22	105	130	
Rev. M. H. Henry	Todd and Muhlenberg	5 27	707	702	6	31	24	1	8	90	946	
P. J. Heyer	Russell and Wayne	2 9	266	79	6	—	—	—	2	97	122	
H. Hohrath	Louisville	12	1,923	100	—	24	723	692	942	1,431	3,527	331 Steam-boats.—Ger. pop.
F. W. Hoss	"	10 9	395	108	7	—	—	—	778	1,553	3,996	German population.
F. X. Kopf	"	1	106	10	7	—	—	425	—	—	840	"
Rev. J. Logan	Lamell	4 25	273	58	62	184	63	—	—	674	825	
Q. C. Malone	Spencer	3 173	76	173	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	
H. B. McCracken	Bracken and Pendleton	3 18	815	50	9	—	19	—	20	69	612	
T. Reynolds	Trimble and Carroll	3 163	132	16	13	17	—	—	30	76	142	
Joseph Rice	Kenton, Boone, and Campbell	12	1,974	607	—	6	—	—	774	—	1,277	
T. J. Rigg	Nicholas	1 22	265	13	10	1	1	—	5	—	187	
Rev. J. Taylor	Boonville	1 15	125	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
W. D. Trainer	Anderson	3 15	296	52	38	7	4	5	6	185	354	
OHIO.												
Seely Wood	Vinton	12	1 138	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Superintendent.
J. A. Allen	Dalaware	1 15	138	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Alex. Anderson	Paulding	7 2	1,267	346	45	47	61	155	1,113	—	2,098	
Otis Bartlett	Socia	8 25	866	184	33	40	13	5	67	447	986	
T. Ball	Licking	3 15	562	131	31	143	106	58	109	105	498	
Rev. L. L. Bonnell	Sadusky	3 15	326	419	16	—	78	98	100	192	171	
E. B. Buckman	Allen	4 18	367	194	31	110	61	6	65	145	770	
Rev. A. Conklin	Chadron	1 4	974	82	35	71	61	774	179	1,394	2,494	German population.
H. Friedman	Tuscarawas	12	1,031	253	31	115	—	—	42	—	1,113	"
C. Gethold	Franklin	3	131	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
J. T. Harcourt	Miami	7	1,962	185	102	85	30	150	189	2,030	3,127	
M. Harshas	Ashland	5 15	614	216	—	224	96	40	194	377	1,008	
Thomas Henderson	Logan	1	336	17	8	—	—	10	—	—	210	
J. S. Hall	Logan	3	215	99	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

		10	14	1,323	649	30	49	111	175	131	530	2,300	Sup't City Tract Association. German population.
		13	17	1,323	32	38	4	2	1	11	36	57	
Sol. Johnson	Lucas	19	174	1,323	32	38	4	2	1	11	36	57	German population.
P. Jones	Cincinnati	19	174	1,323	32	38	4	2	1	11	36	57	
H. F. Knapp	Darke	2	12	716	21	17	59	43	11	12	39	693	German population.
Geo. Loffler	Muskingum	5	2,410	570	17	17	40	21	20	40	395	625	
Geo. Mattison	Wood	5	469	166	26	231	231	49	5	232	168	567	German population.
I. Miller	Fayette	5	134	6	6	72	72	25	1	54	313	410	
I. Miller	Adams and Meigs	10	7	1,151	744	24	24	25	1	54	313	410	German population.
Wm. Patterson	Stark	5	15	703	86	11	39	43	16	63	314	596	
C. Pascher	Perry and Hocking	5	25	1,105	262	13	15	11	3	64	224	224	German population.
J. S. Price	Champaign	2	10	245	9	10	7	6	7	11	138	170	
W. J. Riker	Union	1	1	185	32	3	95	6	20	20	160	230	German population.
L. Rolison	Wayne	4	24	1,494	135	5	80	62	92	253	343	853	
G. Rumbough	Cincinnati	12	5	765	123	24	46	29	268	395	408	1,365	Depository, German.
C. Staur	Medina	1	22	362	41	22	19	17	3	16	79	212	
Rev. I. Statter	Muskingum	1	22	362	41	22	19	17	3	16	79	212	German population.
John H. Stanberry	Cincinnati	2	15	284	45	5	80	120	200	200	1,006	1,006	
F. W. Steffus	Crawford	2	704	265	29	27	14	28	225	496	675	675	German population.
J. G. Stough	Allen	1	29	477	147	1	20	5	4	7	54	693	
Geo. L. Turner	Coshocton	11	15	807	710	113	92	30	16	66	1,532	1,822	German population.
Arthur Van Vleet	Marion	2	6	440	112	2	10	34	28	41	134	134	
M. Waldruff	Holmes	2	13	291	277	2	10	34	28	41	134	134	German population.
Wm. Waldruff	Noble	1	17	483	46	14	7	1	1	84	145	145	
Rev. C. Baldwin	Washington	3	20	378	136	18	7	7	7	79	298	430	German population.
A. Barstow	Lake	2	28	384	133	18	7	7	7	79	298	430	
John Bates	Harrison and Belmont	5	15	1,338	262	14	9	28	170	902	1,094	1,094	German population.
John Duncan	Trumbull	1	12	341	24	3	4	4	4	146	397	397	
Elanathan Galpin	Portage	7	11	1,191	448	40	46	24	20	130	630	596	German and English.
J. Greenmeyer	Guernsey	6	23	1,713	247	11	13	16	8	19	764	943	
B. Jackson	Portage	5	3	619	321	25	12	4	6	80	931	1,174	German and English.
D. B. Kingdey	Stark	1	4	134	45	2	96	30	46	52	38	349	
J. Mock	Columbiana	1	16	227	92	17	17	60	63	76	539	1,021	German and English.
Wm. Rose	Monroe	10	3	894	299	42	61	60	63	76	539	1,021	
D. Schaub	Stark	1	15	150	18	1	13	13	30	338	668	668	German and English.
Rev. A. R. Smith	Ashtabula	6	26	708	103	61	61	13	2	46	434	599	
Rev. J. Stanoliff	Tuscarawas	4	8	576	78	27	7	3	2	46	434	599	German population.
Thomas Wright	Wayne	2	240	132	132	17	92	7	121	243	423	1,737	
Herman Allen	Marion	1	5	282	105	17	32	7	37	97	1,790	2,268	German population.
D. J. Beck	Whitby	12	28	1,373	276	158	158	138	256	290	624	599	
Rev. S. L. Collins	Knox and Davies	9	26	116	87	12	432	256	290	624	599	599	German population.
G. DeLoring	DeKalb and Allen	2	10	977	352	41	432	256	290	624	599	599	
C. Eckhart	Carroll	4	22	635	339	19	345	92	38	460	596	729	German population.
D. Evans	Fulton and Wabash	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	
F. F. Frieden	Sullivan	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	German population.
I. P. Hogue	Wayne	2	240	132	132	17	92	7	121	243	423	1,737	
	Marion	1	5	282	105	17	32	7	37	97	1,790	2,268	
	Whitby	12	28	1,373	276	158	158	138	256	290	624	599	German population.
	Knox and Davies	9	26	116	87	12	432	256	290	624	599	599	
	DeKalb and Allen	2	10	977	352	41	432	256	290	624	599	599	German population.
	Carroll	4	22	635	339	19	345	92	38	460	596	729	
	Fulton and Wabash	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	German population.
	Sullivan	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	
	Wayne	2	240	132	132	17	92	7	121	243	423	1,737	German population.
	Marion	1	5	282	105	17	32	7	37	97	1,790	2,268	
	Whitby	12	28	1,373	276	158	158	138	256	290	624	599	German population.
	Knox and Davies	9	26	116	87	12	432	256	290	624	599	599	
	DeKalb and Allen	2	10	977	352	41	432	256	290	624	599	599	German population.
	Carroll	4	22	635	339	19	345	92	38	460	596	729	
	Fulton and Wabash	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	German population.
	Sullivan	1	26	248	40	21	26	1	9	300	379	379	

EASTERN OHIO.

INDIANA.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTEGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	M. D.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir- ing of religious books.	Families desir- ing of Bible.	Catholics.	Families habit- ually preaching even, preach- ing.	Families con- verted or pray- ed with.	Whole number Families visited.	REMARKS.
INDIANA—Continued.													
J. Hammond.....	Ripley and Dearborn.....	9	3	1,574	292	37	94	89	102	38	1,395	1,712	German population.
H. Jacob.....	Huntington and Wells.....	3	317	46	22	52	42	116	139	46	754	1,691	"
Rev. Philip Karbach.....	Floyd and Harrison.....	7	20	661	172	134	94	33	55	224	357	1,348	"
J. H. Leipsie.....	Lake and Porter.....	8	21	795	109	56	109	100	137	155	918	812	German population.
R. McCurdy.....	Gibson.....	25	156	30	47	68	7	334	7	334	41	870	"
Henry Meritt.....	Dubois.....	5	535	105	10	66	37	25	74	365	670	418	German population.
Thomas Nixon.....	Larange and Noble.....	1	23	265	64	116	4	20	15	15	55	926	German population.
J. A. Orr.....	Elkhart.....	1	18	182	116	4	66	70	74	121	361	2,161	German population.
Rev. J. F. Schermus.....	Cass and Pulaski.....	10	25	1,250	407	80	407	92	50	505	1,426	776	German population.
Rev. T. J. Stearns.....	Bartholomew.....	19	1,006	675	59	407	13	107	107	552	552	552	German population.
J. P. Vedder.....	Vanderburgh.....	7	10	927	170	36	13	107	107	552	552	552	German population.
A. F. Watt.....	Park and Vermilion.....	4	22	1,749	249	349	13	107	107	552	552	552	German population.
MICHIGAN.													
M. E. Cochran.....	Ingham and Shiawassee.....	8	24	775	250	50	277	38	48	417	595	1,321	German population.
Rev. D. R. Dixon.....	Livingston.....	12	1,133	311	20	134	90	63	571	949	380	1,711	German population.
E. C. Denison.....	Macomb, St. Clair, and Sanilac.....	1	19	298	41	3	62	51	53	107	245	720	German population.
Ira Goodrich.....	Lenawee.....	1	20	190	189	5	7	8	3	15	175	720	German population.
N. Hoffman.....	Wayne.....	2	20	142	59	21	21	23	11	65	1,963	2,060	German population.
Wm. N. Lewis.....	Hillsdale and Jackson.....	8	7	845	372	6	50	23	11	65	1,963	2,060	German population.
Warren Norton.....	Lake Superior, mining region.....	4	25	455	207	24	4	38	180	205	242	487	Partly in N. York, 892 vessels.
Wm. McMechan.....	Branch and St. Joseph.....	10	1,631	647	38	138	248	36	187	187	2,192	2,726	German population.
Godfrey Russell.....	Detroit and vicinity.....	11	80	817	413	4	81	251	367	483	713	1,738	German population.
Alpheus Saunders.....	Kalamazoo and Calhoun.....	3	4	402	98	36	187	33	7	941	493	630	German population.
Andrew Silberhorn.....	Monroe and Lenawee.....	2	22	273	68	5	34	20	73	108	200	630	German population.
NORTHERN ILLINOIS.													
Rev. Yates Hickey.....	Cook, Kane, Lake, and McHenry.....	11	25	1,405	548	39	274	106	163	432	815	3,253	Superintendent.
John C. Dwyer.....	Chicago harbor.....	10	10	3,196	658	19	5	12	20	41	597	697	German population.
Reuben F. Dodge.....	Will.....	5	26	1,103	250	5	8	12	20	41	597	697	3,370 vessels, steam-boats, etc.
J. A. Frank.....	Kane, Kendall, and DeKalb.....	12	30	2,365	545	108	52	40	178	130	172	2,090	4,986
John Jones.....	Chicago.....	13	20	851	199	1	1	350	350	172	172	2,090	4,986
J. V. Kellogg.....	Illinois Central Railroad.....	6	844	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97

4,049 German population.
582 Trav. 31,573 m. on 969 trains.
1,994 Partly in Wisconsin.
1,173 German population.

	13	552	618	137	732	938	1,384	1,422	1,592	
<i>G. F. Mayer</i>	13	552	618	137	732	938	1,384	1,422	1,592	
<i>Rev. J. J. Charns</i>	9	2,102	911	116						
<i>D. H. Palmer</i>	9	1,860	307	18	171	132	190	339	907	
<i>Albert Weeks</i>	10	1,053	260	10	200	102	151	254	600	
CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.										
<i>C. H. Benson</i>	9	1,472	192	20	41	15	9	665	774	704
<i>John L. Brown</i>	22	167	87	2	7	10			64	258
<i>Rev. J. J. Clod</i>	5	92	91	11		5	1	1	150	180
<i>Rev. R. M. Davis</i>	5	922	183							
<i>A. Duffenbaugh</i>	6	1,022	193	38	218	71	66	380	393	945
<i>White and Gallatin</i>	3	430	65	14	24	94	44	110	143	300
<i>McLane and Champagne</i>	3	300	925	18	92	27	33	183	1,353	1,663
<i>Simons Harrington</i>	6	1,349	305	25	16	45	169	33	514	1,974
<i>Washington and Martin</i>	12	1,227	305	25	16	45	169	33	514	1,974
<i>Conrad Huzzell</i>	8	1,682	338			91	237	34	845	2,241
<i>Charles Knapp</i>	8	1,682	338			91	237	34	845	2,241
<i>A. B. Leulin</i>	1	150	34						50	98
<i>Monroe</i>	3	730	149	18	43				321	424
<i>Woodford</i>	6	520	234	9	83	32	3	111	201	938
<i>G. M. Foot</i>	10	1,734	237			5	343	256	230	2,088
<i>Madison, and St. Louis, Mo.</i>	5	4	790	82	3	53	32	130	402	335
<i>St. Clair</i>	2	579	46	30					252	
<i>Illinois Central railroad</i>	2	380	77	1	44	35		40	77	380
<i>Perry</i>	9	906	202	1	43	39	62	197	243	1,078
<i>Stephenson</i>	6	1,123	376	24	82	39	82	275	632	918
<i>Henry</i>	8	4	974	266	54	117	118	306	80	1,622
<i>Jo-Davis</i>	4	10	569	132	3	17	13	17	798	902
<i>La-Salle</i>	1	17	47	3		4		4	38	156
<i>Hamilton</i>										
MISSOURI.										
<i>Rev. Charles Peabody</i>	12	2,056	769	66	237	42	1	327	630	881
<i>Rev. B. Baker</i>	12	1,436	184		19	14	381	573	759	4,494
<i>H. H. Bortwester</i>	12	1,536	469	31	548	60	3	435	587	1,060
<i>John F. Cotander</i>	6	1,267	238	1	51	37	38	451	332	969
<i>St. Charles</i>	9	1,038	245	84	45	111	217	86	237	1,855
<i>H. H. Hottigraue</i>	5	1,281	374	37	96	41	1	80	278	646
<i>Green</i>	9	5	889	80					183	2,957
<i>D. M. Johnston</i>	3	323	22	16	17	31	4	179	613	1,583
<i>St. Louis</i>	3	323	22	16	17	31	4	179	613	1,583
<i>Ray</i>	4	1,871	98	61	4	13		58	63	134
<i>John Rice</i>	7	22	859	194	3	23	16	1	69	570
<i>Cedar</i>	7	22	859	194	3	23	16	1	69	570
<i>F. W. Schenck</i>	9	3,966	531	5	77	92	182	242	2,945	2,567
<i>Theodore Schenck</i>	6	1,4	804	250	36	24	16	130	141	620
<i>M. Simon</i>	6	1,4	854	340	2	107	41	315	725	"
<i>E. A. Von Sprichen</i>	19	1,613	895	8	105	12	152	172	492	"
<i>Montgomery</i>	3	290	98	61	4	13		69	670	"
<i>J. G. Urban</i>	1	112	20				7	4	18	76
<i>Perry</i>										
<i>Osage</i>										
<i>Newton</i>										

Superintendent.

German population.

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German population.

German population.

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STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1857—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families destitute of Bible.	Chapels.	Families habitually neglecting Sabbath preaching.	Families converted with.	Families visited.	REMARKS.
IOWA.												
C. L. Adams.....	Delaware.....	2 12	743	172	8	72	71	66	108	195	570	
E. Beckenoogen.....	Marion.....	1 11	421	34	6	6	6	2	16	155	329	
H. Dedrick.....	Lee.....	12	1,837	949	14	171	19	35	670	496	1,990	German population.
W. A. Eggleston.....	Des Moines, and Fulton, Ill.	10 10	3,193	514	6	161	161	96	430	1,709	1,591	
J. C. Fenske.....	Winnebago.....	4 3	524	196	62	37	37	8	177	223	503	German population.
Wm. Glen.....	Dubuque.....	1 16	501	96	1	1	11	35	31	145	304	
E. G. O. Groat.....	Black Hawk.....	3 14	557	200	53	108	31	30	127	358	513	
J. G. Hartman.....	Muscatine.....	6 9	765	256	54	165	164	216	345	649	1,994	German population.
J. W. Hazen.....	Scott.....	1 6	111	75		37	16	76	117	132	405	"
J. W. Kingley.....	Richards.....	12	2,566	623	67	127	96	26	897	1,328	2,432	
John Moore.....	Davenport, Knox, and Warren, Ill.	11 10	14	6						3	10	
Joseph Strong.....	Folk.....	5 9	946	67	7	169	33	3	140	296	935	
Ed N. Thomas.....	Davis, Coe.....	8 6	1,134	146		55	2	2	115	325	1,109	
Henry Webb.....	Jefferson.....											
WISCONSIN.												
Peter Aburnson.....	Sauk and Richmond.....	1 20	211	109	17				114	94	144	Norwegian population.
J. B. Barney.....	Dodge and Columbia.....	28	320	63	2	12	5	13	100	58	300	
J. G. Dally.....	Waushara and Adams.....	8 19	843	651	103	108	28	162	504	679	1,990	
J. A. Jones.....	Waushara and Walworth.....	3 20	220	79		15	30	25	29	340	340	Welsh and English.
Jacob Karcher.....	Milwaukee.....	8 27	1,135	192	29	1	19	65	91	145	1,056	German population.
John A. Kaskids.....	Iowa and Lafayette.....	6 36	745	381	61	622	769	967	763	1,748	2,930	"
Stewart McMillen.....	Marquette.....	6 4	1,157	184	18	130	80	306	165	954	1,513	
Justin Olin.....	Walworth, Kenosha, and Racine.....	5 9	500	389	25	245	143	252	976	320	778	
Rev. J. C. Roberts.....	Grant.....	10 20	1,907	558	67	105	137	431	588	691	2,649	German population.
Louis Schmidt.....	Greene and Dane.....	8	696	229	6	30	36	80	26	70	290	"
Rev. Thomas Theall.....	Racine.....	5	32	903		61	77	79	95	81	879	"
Frank Warman.....	Milwaukee and Washington.....	1 1	167	113	11	63	101	174	79	284	712	
Frederic Weiss.....	"	3 7	716	119								
Peter Yoss.....	"	2	183	119								
CHEROKEE NATION.												
Isaac B. Hitchcock.....		6 10	1,146	339		17	23	2			220	
Thomas Judkins.....		6 23	3,003	537	4		2	9	16	104	326	

CANADA.												
Rev. D. Barney	Oxford	2	20	378	75	41	61	18	5	180	303	696
Thos. Cooley	Holden	10	10	2,065	263	52	6	8	7	185	451	887
John Eckis	Lincoln	11	3	1,223	394	37	14	69	54	113	596	1,369
Peter Hyman	Waterloo	9	1,607	456	56	263	196	135	250	1,376	2,368	"
Geo. Irving	Perth	11	18	1,967	427	81	183	82	70	219	1,736	"
Jesse Nunn	Wentworth	4	18	729	71	1	7	20	97	17	37	310
Robert Forney	Perth and Huron	133	---	---	---	---	---	---	31	21	104	238
Rev. Thos. Wright	Lincoln and Welland	8	1,254	198	73	4	4	14	22	1	365	542

COLPORTEURS RECENTLY COMMISSIONED, FROM WHOM NO REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

NEW JERSEY, T. R. Blackwood; PENNSYLVANIA, M. Bordner, R. Bradfoot, H. Wait, P. Kettoman, C. Scholtz, D. Ansley; VIRGINIA, G. W. Hensley, R. W. Lewis, J. H. Meacham, W. Engle, G. W. Standley, D. H. Smith; NORTH CAROLINA, W. S. Chaffin, Z. F. Meekins, B. W. Telford; SOUTH CAROLINA, N. Grant, R. H. Craven, W. B. Thomas; GEORGIA, J. E. Caldwell, J. J. Castleberg; ALABAMA, J. H. Drake, S. W. Wallace; MISSISSIPPI, W. B. Owen; TEXAS, H. Nelson, J. Hiner, R. E. San, den, T. A. Ish, C. Richards, S. W. McGortle, J. Hardaway; TENNESSEE, I. Twieth, M. Diamond, M. W. Webb, J. M. Lansden, O. Carpenter, W. B. Raab, J. J. Cash, B. P. Jackson, J. A. Nicks; KENTUCKY, J. McKinnon; OHIO, P. Kariz, A. Huise, F. K. Brownell; INDIANA, J. G. Kerr; WISCONSIN, S. S. Stevens; MINNESOTA, H. H. Strand; OREGON, D. Bagley; CHEROKEE NATION, L. Downing, D. M. Forman.

COLPORTEURS COMMISSIONED PREVIOUS TO APRIL 1, 1857, WHOSE TERM OF SERVICE WILL NOT COMMENCE TILL AFTER THAT DATE.

CONNECTICUT, A. Alvord; PENNSYLVANIA, D. J. Morgan, M. Koch, R. H. Klapp, J. Gaab, B. F. Apple, M. Gaugler, J. H. A. Kitzmiller, J. Flickensine, H. N. Minich, A. Thompson, W. B. Smith, H. H. Lemke, R. Weidensall, P. S. Hooper, J. H. Wilson, H. B. Johnson, C. Gunther, J. W. Potter, W. S. Wallace, L. A. Bickle, J. C. Jones, A. J. Ammerman, J. D. Burgess, A. A. Lechleider, E. J. Kount, J. W. Smith; VIRGINIA, T. W. White, W. Drexler; GEORGIA, J. Girardeau, R. Cunningham; TENNESSEE, J. N. Caldwell, W. M. Howell; OHIO, S. Ramsey.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS IN COLLEGES AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES DURING THEIR VACATIONS.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir- ing of religious books.	Families desir- ing of Bible.	Families habit- ually neglecting evangel. preach- ing.	Families con- verted or pray- ed with.	Whole number.	INSTITUTIONS.
CONNECTICUT.											
EASTERN NEW YORK.											
L. W. Smith	Long Island	M. D. 2	342	106	12	10	6	4	4	200	550 Yale Theological Seminary.
Samuel Dodd	Long Island	2 16	1,305	27	11	8	11	40	5	1,592	New York University.
Ingles Laurie	Elliot's Camp	3	990	232	15	175	356	339	293	1,422	Union Theological Seminary.
Elliot's Camp	Columbia	2 15	236	255	28	21	17	12	53	81	164 Princeton
G. E. Crawford	Columbia	2	254	301	16	32	9	15	23	39	173 Fairfax
N. & W. NEW YORK.											
P. F. Allen	Livingston	1 20	91	79	5	16	23	31	105	310	635 Madison University.
Hallock Armstrong	Livingston	2 5	594	98	18	52	66	74	112	196	612 Mahopany, Penn.
J. Bastow	Montgomery and Fulton	1 28	506	101	12	22	24	56	113	329	1,157 Madison University.
James Baskwell	Allegany	3 19	417	80	22	42	61	52	90	307	764 Rochester
J. L. Benedict	Herkimer	1 12	212	417	49	6	15	8	16	147	309 Madison
G. A. Bishop	Clinton	1 23	506	85	2	3	3	5	42	515	"
N. W. Boomer	Onondaga	1 23	333	50	8	77	66	68	95	375	"
K. O. Brady	Montgomery and Fulton	1 28	506	101	13	110	23	57	112	320	"
S. S. Chase	Delaware	2 98	200	35	2	97	113	60	96	490	"
S. Culver	Delaware	1 23	399	62	3	5	14	127	242	874	"
Henry Day	Clinton	1 23	304	157	4	71	62	31	93	512	"
E. D. Dayton	Cortland	2 10	370	98	8	18	3	20	277	817	"
E. R. Davis	Mohawk valley	1 20	315	56	17	16	3	39	54	325	Asbarn Seminary.
G. D. Downey	Broome	1 20	328	99	13	13	3	49	163	536	Madison University.
J. H. Dillingham	Broome	2	234	63	33	13	7	11	83	589	Madison University.
J. M. Ferris	Madison	1 28	409	75	13	21	14	19	30	183	442 Rochester
F. D. Fennel	Allegany	2	321	64	20	13	48	57	102	358	936 Madison
D. D. Hamilton	Jefferson	2	359	91	15	36	14	8	102	99	435 Madison
D. E. Holmes	Herkimer	1 12	212	66	8	20	15	17	35	65	235 Madison
E. L. Hunt	Tioga	2	307	59	22	2	1	1	3	274	563 Lewisburg University, Penn.
I. C. Jones	Genesee	2	286	61	22	13	8	30	338	539	Hamilton College.
F. P. Lang	Warren	1 28	318	161	12	25	13	40	20	180	549 Madison University.
John Mathews	Stauben	2	457	101	17	90	95	76	134	519	"
Albert Martin	Stauben	1 20	457	101	17	90	95	76	134	519	"

L. J. Matteson	1 28	435	140	10	7	5	32	79	140	437 Madison University.
S. P. Merrill	1 28	444	117	11	112	50	36	240	494 Rochester "	
E. B. Miner	1 24	772	73	29	95	15	66	6	610 Hamilton College.	
Wm. P. Moon	1 14	424	52	6	130	167	342	309	1,333 Madison University.	
G. A. Mark	1 12	57	16	4	21	5	11	67	137 "	
E. B. Palmer	1 20	324	65	4	9	54	112	61	576 "	
F. G. Reineman	9 6	460	183	5	9	62	113	74	723 "	
A. M. Shaw	1 24	270	44	62	21	5	62	75	414 "	
W. E. Stanton	341	341	67	31	62	21	62	75	484 "	
E. F. Tanner	1 21	316	31	6	172	115	108	301	512 Williams College, Mass.	
Thos. W. Wall	3	243	63	6	172	115	108	301	913 Whiteboro'.	
NEW JERSEY.										
Fred. W. Reidel	2 19	188	54	19	26	22	32	49	279	377 Lewisburg University.
G. G. W. Folsell	1 8	450	95	8	1	3	3	5	246	250 "
J. F. Westcott	1	258	38	13	13	13	13	29	31	397 "
PENNSYLVANIA.										
C. R. Brooke	1 12	141	38	4	11	15	15	500	79	349 Pennsylvania College.
A. Finck	2 15	712	127	6	4	11	15	500	851 "	
J. Friday	1 15	550	145	10	10	7	3	31	38	179 "
Henry Giles	2 8	912	300	2	9	10	10	1	447	675 "
Hugo Grann	1 8	270	72	3	26	6	1	39	384	900 "
V. G. Haag	3 10	828	165	13	145	40	125	625	730	437 "
P. S. Hooper	2	345	79	5	10	16	35	60	68	474 "
J. N. Kelly	2	553	67	7	4	6	307	474	573	300 "
R. H. Klapp	1 15	337	42	1	30	13	6	39	61	488 "
M. Koch	3 15	885	190	1	8	28	15	34	480	706 "
E. J. Koons	1 17	515	55	2	2	2	1	67	488	1,573 "
A. A. Lechleider	4	1,098	171	25	13	75	151	357	1,573	487 "
S. S. Lawson	1 15	306	80	57	2	6	23	14	487	374 "
H. Lemke	1 15	294	45	4	9	14	33	100	374	427 "
H. N. Minnigh	1 15	110	71	13	21	19	16	15	105	105 "
J. W. Schwartz	1 15	90	15	11	6	5	117	285	285	114 Jefferson College.
D. S. Trukenmiller	2 15	296	51	1	11	16	35	60	61	437 "
R. Weidensall	2	318	78	5	18	3	23	32	16	228 "
J. R. Ewing	1 15	84	65	170	110	36	6	46	64	32 "
S. A. Hughes	1 7	302	23	8	3	13	96	947	947	947 "
W. J. Kline	1 8	230	35	0	2	12	11	22	999	327 "
T. A. Martin	1 14	311	96	10	9	27	42	13	327	351 "
J. McCartney	1 14	414	37	1	21	20	34	65	383	351 "
N. V. Morrow	1 9	253	33	29	17	5	30	7	411	411 "
I. M. Smith	1 9	502	88	2	2	95	23	1,550	2,510 Franklin	
S. B. Taggart	2 15	1,942	333	7	51	5	95	23	1,550	1,901 Lewisburg University
H. C. Heuser	3 15	1,942	333	7	51	5	95	23	1,550	1,901 Lewisburg University
L. B. Boel	1 11	133	35	5	5	1	10	95	233	233 "
W. H. Conrad	21	359	79	5	5	1	10	95	233	233 "
J. D. Cooper	2	459	101	5	5	1	10	95	233	233 "

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir- ous of religious books.	Families des- iring Bible.	Catholicism.	Families habit- ually neglecting evan. preach- ing.	Families com- versed or prayed with.	Whole number.	INSTITUTIONS.
PENNSYLVANIA—Cont'd.												
R. F. Crawford	Schuykill	M. D.	374	104	---	86	62	185	136	---	971	Lewisburg University.
Isaac De Haven	Tioga	1 28	581	135	8	47	21	55	37	286	647	"
J. W. Evans	Welsh population	2	958	47	22	18	20	7	372	---	1,016	"
W. T. Johnson	Northumberland	1 17	213	68	9	22	26	34	10	243	616	"
H. B. Johnson	Union	1 15	550	14	30	---	---	---	---	300	700	"
E. J. Seibert	Allegheny	2 21	550	14	30	---	---	---	---	300	700	"
A. Thompson	Chester	1 10	113	27	4	3	2	6	3	28	277	"
W. P. Teitworth	Columbia	1 12	207	41	---	16	10	5	21	63	696	Princeton Theological Seminary.
J. A. Kamp	Lycornia	4 8	1,380	643	72	288	30	---	107	513	312	Gettysburg
E. J. Koons	Franklin	1 8	380	81	8	40	12	10	50	70	136	"
		12	89	14	---	---	---	2	---	22	---	"
MARYLAND.												
A. L. Bond	---	1 20	400	95	4	---	---	22	22	34	185	Columbia College.
I. H. Stidham	---	2 13	439	51	10	---	2	64	9	100	150	"
Daniel B. Smith	---	1 7	188	48	3	11	14	17	32	124	282	Pennsylvania College.
VIRGINIA.												
Wm. H. Agnew	Franklin	2	412	30	---	38	3	---	2	47	936	Richmond College.
J. W. Potter	Brooke	1	433	125	---	22	9	12	35	106	292	Jefferson
J. W. Hooper	Washington	1	568	4	4	---	---	---	2	31	292	Union Theological Seminary.
J. B. Shearer	Roanoke	3 15	1,018	200	18	15	8	1	53	163	486	"
Wm. F. M. Jacob	Berkley	1 1	150	31	5	1	3	3	13	3	81	Fairfax
S. J. Josephus	Wheeling	2 11	266	164	9	69	53	73	105	116	489	Western
SOUTH CAROLINA.												
W. L. Baird	Newberry and Fairfield	18	49	69	---	9	2	---	5	23	93	Lexington Theological Seminary.
J. N. Derrick	Lexington	2	271	96	---	94	12	1	21	160	233	"
Paul Derrick	Lexington and Newberry	2	323	52	2	15	22	1	19	160	161	"
Barnabas Kreps	Orange and Edgefield	2	336	41	14	38	19	1	5	37	131	"
MISSISSIPPI.												
John L. Pettigrew	Winston and Nashoba	23	280	37	---	52	1	---	1	20	108	Mississippi College.
Wm. C. Smith	TEXAS.	2	482	57	---	3	1	6	2	---	280	Austin College.

ARKANSAS.									
J. T. Buchanan.....	9 16	845	112	7	11	9	2	34	212
A. L. Kinney.....	1 15	677	107	18	9	17	15	15	101
F. M. Letta.....	2 23	576	131	3	6	2	1	15	545
TENNESSEE.									
H. F. Bone.....	2	286	74	7	25	10	1	50	179
J. G. Boydton.....	1 92	339	90	---	---	---	---	39	350
Anthony Burroughs.....	2	474	54	---	---	---	---	---	---
Amos Cox.....	2	316	13	8	31	10	---	21	160
O. Carpenter.....	7 16	1,237	148	---	---	---	---	---	---
E. A. Foster.....	2	384	42	---	---	---	---	---	---
W. P. Gillespie.....	2	325	64	---	10	---	---	16	166
James F. Gracy.....	1	104	139	---	---	---	---	---	---
J. B. Russell.....	2	324	68	---	11	---	---	87	297
James L. Cooper.....	2	593	120	14	---	4	---	70	155
John B. Roach.....	1 15	296	87	---	---	---	---	---	---
Thos. C. Thompson.....	2	406	39	---	7	4	2	4	208
KENTUCKY.									
H. F. Albright.....	2 15	498	140	---	30	32	14	1	874
S. C. Alexander.....	1 18	169	94	---	4	---	10	17	81
R. Brent.....	1 13	101	7	---	---	---	---	---	---
John M. Crawford.....	1	192	72	---	2	3	---	---	---
Charles H. Dobbs.....	1	117	54	---	12	2	4	20	117
Isaac J. Long.....	1 16	133	8	---	3	2	10	11	100
E. McNair.....	21	154	44	---	10	2	2	6	104
John Madden.....	1 10	299	65	---	---	---	---	---	---
R. C. Nourse.....	1	163	27	14	2	37	34	28	250
Daniel Updegrave.....	1 15	45	---	2	46	16	8	14	275
W. Wiley.....	17	122	72	---	2	3	---	16	60
J. N. Woodruff.....	2 4	206	301	---	11	17	1	4	117
Wm. H. Dyer.....	1	201	19	1	15	2	4	12	167
P. Lusan.....	1	121	33	---	69	64	---	33	83
John E. Findley.....	1	246	99	2	35	10	30	22	213
Henry Hugod.....	1	423	45	---	24	16	14	58	301
A. S. Miller.....	1	257	130	5	35	17	6	23	380
J. D. Sevringhaus.....	1	361	24	---	24	14	47	35	165
J. H. Sedwick.....	2	507	116	6	94	14	34	24	508
Wm. A. Tanby.....	1 2	1,321	244	21	70	34	16	50	361
Scotia and Lawrence.....	4 11	321	182	7	640	251	675	132	1,385
J. E. Harris.....	1	694	192	---	---	---	---	182	750
Abner F. Jones.....	1 18	330	37	---	---	---	---	---	586
Robert Hopper.....	2 13	694	252	---	196	39	22	304	667
R. Shide.....	3 15	390	301	7	33	13	117	43	730
OHIO.									
Kenyon College.....									Kenyon College.
Heidelberg College.....									Heidelberg College.
Grainville.....									Grainville
Franklin.....									Franklin
Miami University.....									Miami University.
Denison.....									Denison
Danville Theological Seminary.....									Danville Theological Seminary.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meeting.	Families desist- tute of religious books.	Families desist- tute of Bible.	Catholic. Families Rom.	Families habit- ually neglecting evan. preach'g.	Families con- verted or pray- ed with.	Whole number Families visited.	INSTITUTIONS.
EASTERN OHIO.												
J. G. Condit	Jefferson	M. D. 1 15	376	87		4				164	235	Jefferson College.
Wm. Dickson	Columbiana	1	305	61						90	302	"
S. H. Halliday	Tuscarawas	1	196	39			10	7			310	"
J. D. Smith	Jefferson	1 15	377	87						146	255	"
S. Sherlock	Tuscarawas	1	196	39			10				210	"
C. C. B. Duncan	Belmont	4 9	1,224	80	6	31	31	15	77	342	587	Washington College.
C. P. French	Columbiana	19	121	23	1	17	14	20	26	74	125	"
S. P. Kincaid	Washington	1 23	413	20	6	4	12	20	8	75	361	"
S. G. McFarland	"	1 23	374	89		22	6	13	23	32	572	"
L. Ramsey	Columbiana	2 8	590	34		9	4	14	50	883	883	"
L. M. Birge	Summit	2 1	577	166		30	27	25	130	69	685	Western Reserve College.
L. I. Tracy	"	2 4	581	124		25	13	98	457	348	1,000	"
Jacob Chamberlain	Portage and Geauga	1	265	54	2	10	18	18	27	55	344	Union Theological Seminary.
P. R. Notring	Jefferson	1 6	42	5				2			45	Academy.
INDIANA.												
J. Davis	Randolph	1 17	352	130							1,040	Miami University.
W. M. Williams	Adams	1 15	230	33								"
Z. F. Blakely	Jefferson	1 20	383	249	2	22	21	169	163	108	843	Wabash College.
James Bassett	"	1 10	418	196	5	18	10	7	38	31	185	Lane Seminary.
MICHIGAN.												
L. M. Gates }	Lapeer	6	400	69								Michigan University.
J. D. Parker }		3 3	522	82	7	6	13	9	8	100	930	"
John Richards												
ILLINOIS.												
J. A. DeHagne	Chicago, Swedish population	2	200	383								Knox College.
L. H. Norem	Menard	1	178	50	3	15	58	51	9	119	391	Illinois State University.
A. D. Leslie	Tazewell	1 16	363	50		14	4	14	23	105	372	"
E. O. Tade	"		354	243	12	15	4	1	28	82	242	Iowa College.
MISSOURI.												
G. H. Schnur	Marion	1 4	494	116						38	185	Illinois University.

SUMMARY VIEW OF COLPORTAGE IN THE SEVERAL STATES.

STATES.	Colporteurs.	Time of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of all religious books.	Families destitute of the Bible.	Families Roman Catholics.	Families habitually neglecting even preaching.	Families converted or prayed with.	Whole number families visited.
		M. D.									
New England	21	82 20	27,718	5,059	331	1,076	819	1,288	6,152	14,005	23,748
Connecticut	2	3 17	1,411	69			2	135	61	446	1,453
New York	51	437 29	53,541	13,245	1,538	7,392	5,791	12,309	16,599	55,030	98,128
New Jersey	7	40 9	6,074	1,044	105	443	471	937	1,955	4,450	12,213
Pennsylvania	72	429	71,536	23,156	1,164	3,564	4,916	8,130	13,667	55,825	94,116
Delaware	2	15 9	1,652	748	52	384	140	129	394	2,777	3,797
Maryland	7	66 22	6,903	1,710	196	1,489	1,452	2,674	3,756	6,735	28,960
Virginia	51	313 3	35,319	16,786	1,547	2,088	1,550	809	2,309	16,937	25,881
North Carolina	42	231	28,402	12,355	1,289	3,211	1,489	139	1,626	16,378	29,186
South Carolina	20	121 16	15,489	5,025	375	998	416	144	485	3,781	11,985
Georgia	22	121 20	17,635	6,030	715	1,711	569	215	1,335	7,517	15,592
Florida	1	2 16	341	185	2	15	44	34	28	103	224
Alabama	12	41 25	5,803	1,194	165	185	136	157	299	1,245	3,596
Mississippi	15	37 26	6,204	1,234	187	88	65	14	62	1,039	3,063
Louisiana	15	77 26	8,671	1,040	243	157	390	7,760	7,028	2,924	35,018
Texas	12	63 14	7,197	1,745	152	859	186	110	751	2,093	3,882
Arkansas	7	27 11	5,116	737	276	321	152	83	271	1,328	3,444
Tennessee	31	113 16	15,553	3,607	461	989	432	63	990	3,955	11,370
Kentucky	22	103 9	12,143	3,500	365	521	1,570	3,101	2,288	8,789	19,085
Ohio	50	237 29	31,454	10,092	835	1,894	1,204	2,193	3,317	17,413	33,209
Indiana	20	107 1	14,787	3,915	792	1,846	1,082	1,083	3,143	9,935	18,795
Michigan	11	67 11	6,949	2,655	190	985	875	961	2,422	7,818	13,514
Illinois	32	219 9	32,990	7,913	767	2,253	1,945	3,925	5,438	13,147	27,895
Missouri	17	131 17	19,185	4,732	411	1,310	687	1,217	3,179	7,011	19,757
Iowa	14	79 19	16,693	3,177	278	1,099	519	757	4,296	8,922	15,532
Wisconsin	14	68 15	8,832	3,235	339	1,398	1,394	2,549	3,776	5,548	15,939
Oregon	1	6 23	3,003	537	4	-----	2	9	16	104	288
Cherokee Nation	1	6 10	1,146	339	-----	17	23	2	-----	-----	220
Canada	8	59 29	9,177	1,910	341	588	430	351	986	5,028	8,284
Total	580	3,305	4,471,074	136,924	13,120	36,881	28,781	51,308	86,533	279,953	598,179

SUMMARY OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS FOR VACATIONS, 1856-57.

Connecticut	1	2	342	106	12	10	6	4	200	550
New York	39	72 13	15,222	3,560	376	1,557	1,536	2,123	3,966	24,321
New Jersey	3	4 27	905	118	27	27	38	48	83	556
Pennsylvania	40	70 18	17,249	3,980	219	978	470	975	2,535	7,549
Maryland	3	5 10	1,027	194	17	11	16	103	56	258
Virginia	6	10 27	2,455	608	36	150	78	89	200	476
South Carolina	4	6 18	979	260	16	96	55	3	50	360
Mississippi	1	23	280	37	-----	52	1	-----	1	20
Texas	1	2	482	57	-----	3	1	6	2	280
Arkansas	3	6 24	2,098	350	10	35	17	2	19	64
Tennessee	12	27 23	5,384	938	29	84	29	3	14	267
Kentucky	12	13 9	2,240	884	16	122	114	83	100	128
Ohio	26	43 16	11,176	2,399	63	1,296	576	794	1,971	4,175
Indiana	4	6 2	1,383	597	7	40	31	176	231	139
Michigan	3	9 3	922	151	7	6	13	9	8	100
Illinois	4	5 16	1,095	728	15	44	66	66	60	306
Missouri	1	1 4	484	116	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	36
Iowa	3	2 12	581	167	8	45	24	192	120	257
Wisconsin	2	2 10	414	60	9	38	60	88	47	189
Canada	6	15 17	2,996	590	72	276	213	238	435	1,921
Total	174	309 2	67,774	15,898	939	4,858	3,394	4,962	9,802	25,472
Total by Colporteurs and Students	754	3,614 6	538,818	152,822	14,059	41,739	32,175	56,270	96,335	305,425
										674,128

CONNECTICUT, EASTERN NEW YORK, AND NEW JERSEY.

GENERAL AGENTS—REV. F. Y. VAIL, REV. AMOS SAVAGE, REV. C. FOOTE, REV. C. EVANS.

COLPORTERS.—CONNECTICUT. S. K. Ferris, D. G. Humphrey. *Student*—J. W. Smith.

NEW YORK. A. Ackert, F. Berssle, J. F. Braun, E. S. Bronson, J. Bullivant, R. Burhans, C. Cooper, T. Curtis, D. Dürstein, J. J. Eckert, L. Eulner, C. W. Leipold, K. Mumm, W. Murdock, Rev. J. J. Riggenbach, J. Schacktel, J. Stähle, J. Weicker, A. B. Welch. *Students*—S. Dodd, I. Laurie, E. Camp, G. E. Crawford.

NEW JERSEY. H. Halter, A. Muller, Rev. J. A. Pinches. *Student*—F. W. Riedel.

REV. F. Y. VAIL, GENERAL AGENT FOR NEW YORK AND OTHER CITIES, has presented a full report, which is printed separately, showing that he has continued his labors in these important fields with increasing and very encouraging success; giving renewed evidence of the ability and disposition of our city churches to make generous benefactions to the tract cause, when fully presented before them; and indicating the importance of developing more extensively the resources of these great centres of wealth and influence. Mr. Vail presents the following interesting summary views of the labors of another year.

Our Committee, and our friends and patrons generally, will be gratified to learn that in my labors for many years, over most of the states of our Union, in raising near one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for our beloved institution, and during the past year over twenty-three thousand dollars, my convictions of the vital and far-reaching importance of this work, and of its greatly increasing usefulness, have from year to year grown stronger and stronger. It has become more and more apparent to me, and to our most intelligent and liberal benefactors, that while no effort should be spared to raise up and send forth a multitude of able and faithful pastors and missionaries into our home and foreign fields, the Christian press and colporteur work must, under God, become more and more a prominent pioneer agency to reach and bless our unevangelized population at home and the heathen abroad. And accordingly, while our own intelligent citizens survey these vast and destitute fields of labor, and see hundreds of devoted colporteurs ready, when called for, with millions of Christian books to preoccupy them for Christ, before the enemy takes possession of them, they need no further argument to furnish the requisite means for their support; so that if we could

now announce that other hundreds of laborers had been looked out, and had actually entered the field, their salaries, we cannot doubt, would be forthcoming. While then our country's prospective greatness wakes up our hopes, while its destitutions excite our sympathy and alarm, and while a kind Providence is pouring in upon our nation an unparalleled tide of prosperity, why should not our combined evangelical churches—the guardians and almoners of our common Christianity—rise up in the strength of God, and take possession of our whole land; having a faithful agent for every state, a devoted colporteur for every destitute county, Christian books for every family, “holiness unto the Lord” inscribed upon our virgin prairies, instead of the blight of Popery and infidelity, our wilderness blossoming as the rose, and our solitary places being made vocal with the high praises of God?

REV. A. SAVAGE, REPORTING HIS AGENCY IN CONNECTICUT, SAYS :

I have now completed fourteen years of labor for the American Tract Society. The last year has not been very different from other years, except that more calls have been made upon the churches for new objects. Notwithstanding this, the receipts of the year are about the same as usual. Though the increase of population and wealth has not been as great in this state as in some other states, for the fourteen years in which I have labored to cultivate this field, and though we have not been blessed with a general revival of religion, still there has been an increase in giving for the spread of the gospel. There are a greater number of objects brought before the churches, and yet the old and more important societies are receiving larger contributions. This is true of the American Tract Society. The year previous to the commencement of my labors in this state, when there was no agent on this field, the donations and legacies were only \$4,031 37. In the last fourteen years, the donations and legacies have averaged more than \$14,000 per annum. The salary and expenses of the general agent have been less than seven per cent. of this sum.

In contemplating the origin, objects, and work of the American Tract Society, it is gratifying to see the evidence of its divine mission. Could it have originated from any other motive than good will to man, to all men? Who of its founders, its conductors, its laborers, or its patrons, derives any benefit from it, except on the principle that “it is more blessed to give than to receive?” Its object is one of pure benevolence. Like its divine Master, “it preaches the gospel to the poor.” It seeks and saves the lost. It carries the good news of salvation to all of every nation, of every color, and of every condition, as it

has ability and opportunity—to those who are too poor to purchase the word of life, too ignorant to prize it, or too stupid even to desire it. It regards all men as the children of one common parent, “made of one blood ;” in a like condition of guilt and misery, subjects of one moral government, exposed to the same condemnation, and for whom there is provided in the gospel one common and all-sufficient remedy.

This Society, with its evangelical publications and its system of itinerant colportage, is essential in the work of evangelization. What other agency, for a long time to come, can possibly reach large portions of our widely extended country? The sparseness of our population, its heterogeneous character, and restless and unsettled habits, are all adverse to the speedy establishment of gospel and educational institutions in large sections of our new states and territories. This Society has been raised up in the good providence of God for such a day as this, and is admirably adapted to do the work which is essential to the extension and final triumph of the gospel. Let it go on and prosper, let it receive the liberal patronage of the friends of Christ, and their fervent prayers, and I doubt not that the blessing of many ready to perish will come upon it.

REV. C. FOOTE, REPORTING HIS AGENCY IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN NEW YORK, SAYS :

Through the goodness of God, I have been brought to the close of another year. In reviewing it, I see much occasion for humiliation, and much to awaken emotions of gratitude and thanksgiving. On my field, as a whole, there are decided indications of progress. I have preached every Sabbath in the year but one, and often twice and three times, addressed numerous Sabbath-schools, and attended many social meetings, where it has been my uniform endeavor to enlighten and convince and move the people to action. My impression has been, that there is in the minds of intelligent good men an increasing conviction of the vast importance of the agencies of this Society in evangelizing our own country and the world. To widen and deepen this impression has been my constant aim in every part of the field.

My collections have been \$2,496 24, nearly \$500 in advance of the previous year. In addition, about \$400 have been pledged for colportage and life-members or directors. In Newburgh, \$300 were contributed to sustain a colporteur in that city and vicinity. At Kingston, a sum was contributed sufficient for the salary of a colporteur, and to pay for two hundred copies of the Messenger and Child's

Paper. At Saugerties, a man who commenced nine years ago with five dollars, now pays \$150 per annum, and is himself an active distributor of the Society's publications. At Poughkeepsie, a gentleman has pledged a sum sufficient to pay the salary of a colporteur.

After publicly presenting the interests of the Society in the churches, I have been accustomed to visit the families, where practicable, to receive their offerings. In this way I have been yearly extending my acquaintance and personally commending the objects of the Society to the patriot and the Christian, and distributing its documents and periodicals, till I am sometimes honored with the title of colporteur. I have, with very few exceptions, been cordially received by parents and children, who are often delighted with the little books, and especially with *The Child's Paper*.

No year of service has been spent more profitably, or upon the whole more successfully. I feel it to be my duty to notice the kindness of ministers, and other individuals, who have permitted me to share their hospitality, and in various ways rendered assistance in the prosecution of my labors. May the Lord reward them a thousand-fold.

REV. C. EVANS has visited numerous churches in New York and New Jersey, and some in Connecticut and Rhode Island, where he has been cordially received, and has collected \$3,530 69. "It is a delightful fact," he says, "that wherever I have been, and with whomsoever I have conversed, the immense good resulting from the American Tract Society's operations, especially in the colporteur department, has been most readily admitted. By Christians of every name this agency is highly appreciated, and the necessity for increasing it is fully recognized. The labors and success of those engaged in it, and the moral destitution developed by these explorations, appeal with power to the benevolent heart. The fact that in this land of Bibles and religious books, of churches and gospel ministers, vast multitudes are found without either, and perishing literally for lack of knowledge, awakens deep interest; and the assurance that among such God is magnifying his grace by rendering the Society's publications and the colporteur's oral instructions instrumental in the conversion of many, elicits deep sympathy in the effort to enlighten and save the perishing.

"When the professed disciples of Christ shall more strongly feel their obligation to extend to all men the gospel, by which they themselves are enriched and blessed, and learn to emulate the New Testament examples of self-denial and sacrifice, means will be abundantly

furnished for prosecuting every enterprise of Christian beneficence. Nor can we doubt that, in proportion as the adaptation of the Society's labors to the peculiar circumstances of our country, and to the condition of its heterogeneous population, is more clearly seen, and the advantage accruing from its catholic principle, in gaining access to all classes, is more justly estimated, its claims will be cheerfully and fully responded to. I cannot omit to mention with grateful feelings, the invariably kind and fraternal reception I have met from ministers of every communion, and also from their people."

REPORTS OF COLPORTEURS IN NEW YORK AND VICINITY.

Mr. L. EULNER, transferred a few months since from Buffalo to Williamsburgh, L. I., reports that his experience in his new field convinces him that colportage is as truly necessary there as anywhere in the West. He "found twelve families in one house; of these one only attended public worship, and that was from wrong motives." "I have found adherents to almost every kind of error—formalists, rationalists, papists, deists, and pantheists; all of whom confirm themselves by the various German periodicals circulated here so largely. I gained access to the families more generally than I expected. Some would show their natural enmity to the truth; but aided by the grace of God, I would overcome it by meekness, and after a short conversation they would take a tract or book. But for swelling the amount of my grants too much, I should like to leave Baxter's Call, or Hollatz's Method of Grace in every family. Are there no friends of the cause of God who wish this done?" Among those thus benefited by "speaking the truth in love," was a man full of hatred against the truth, and especially against "the grace of God;" and a Roman-catholic whose uncle was a priest. Both of these men purchased books, and sent their children to the Sunday-school. Members also of both families began to attend church. A sceptical shoemaker was won to buy books, and examine the evidences of Christianity, by an argument for the divine existence drawn from the shoe he had just completed.

Mr. J. J. ECKERT has visited 1,981 families during the year, and conversed on personal religion with more than three times that number of individuals. He is cheered by finding the good effects of his labors in families and congregations, upon revisiting them; and is rejoiced to find the American Tract Society's publications not only eminently cheap and excellent, but adapted to all the different cases he meets.

Mr. SAMUEL DODD reports that he was in general cordially received, even by Catholics. He found it both pleasant and helpful to attend the Sunday-schools and weekly meetings wherever he went, and to secure an introduction to the people from the pulpits.

Mr. JOHN STAHL visits from sixteen to thirty families daily, mingling with the explanation and sale of his books, religious instruction and appeal as he has opportunity. Is cordially received, and has never yet been treated roughly.

Mr. J. A. PINCHES reports several cases of conversion, out of many which have occurred in connection with his labors; showing that the works of Alleine, Flavel, etc., which some Christians regard as "not adapted to the times," are the best of books, after the Bible, when a real concern for salvation is awakened or is needed.

Mr. A. MULLER has visited 3,620 families during the past year. He interests himself in the circulation of the German Messenger; and in order to do this the better, makes himself perfectly familiar with the contents of each new number. One poor and aged woman, unable to pay for the Messenger, said to him, "I think our good heavenly Father will find me the means of getting it. I have no money, but I cannot do without that paper, for which I pray God every day that he would bless those who read. I pray for you, and for all the colporteurs." Several Roman-catholic families have embraced the truth; many households have been induced to obtain and read the Bible. One family, long adherents to Tom Paine, have been led to resume the study of their old and dusty Bible; to send their children to the Sabbath-school. A superintendent in a factory greatly facilitates his sales by co-operating, and advancing the money for such as wish to buy books. An increased desire is manifested for religious reading, and on one occasion he could have sold twice the number of books he had on hand. Like others laboring among the Germans, he feels the urgent need of more laborers.

Mr. J. WICKER has visited 5,412 families in the year, besides 180 steamers and sailing vessels. He is cheered by constant evidence of the presence of his Master, and very frequently finds a welcome where he least expected it. One family bought five dollars' worth of books; another, all the German publications of the Society, telling him afterwards they were "very thankful he had brought such treasures into their house." On board a Bremen ship the sailors received him with great kindness, and said that the books he had sold them two years before had been blessed to them and to their families in Germany. In Castle Garden alone he distributed 47 Bibles and 336 Testaments to emigrants; who were rejoiced to find such benevolent institutions in America, and some of them "prized the word of God and our publications above gold and silver."

The arrangements in Castle Garden prove very beneficial for immigrants, and secure for them advantages that call for their most sincere gratitude. They here rest in security until they go into the country; while those whose first desire on landing is after lager beer, learn to their cost that they are less safe in the taverns. Not only do the "runners" plunder those whom they can lay hold of out of the enclosure, but they send agents to Europe to return in ships full of immigrants, for the sake of persuading them to go to boarding-houses in New York, instead of remaining at the Garden. Even families who are cautioned on their arrival to beware of outside impositions, and reminded that the arrangements in Castle Garden were made by the Commissioners of Emigration solely for their good, yet allow themselves to be cajoled; and after a time return with sad faces, saying to the colporteur, "O that we had followed the advice you gave us, when you gave us tracts."

Having given tracts to a family, I inquired, "Have you the word of God?" "Yes," was the reply, "we have it double—a Bible in the chest, and a Testament in the pocket." "There is still another place where it is wanted," said I, "in your heart." While I was distributing Testaments, a Roman-catholic came and asked if I would give him also "a holy book." "With great pleasure," said I, handing him a Testament and some tracts. He thanked me most affectionately, and immediately sat down in a spot where he would be undisturbed, took off his cap, and commenced reading. The majority of those I meet are glad to receive tracts, and read them on the spot, the men with their heads uncovered. Met a sailor who has been converted to God by reading the publications of the American Tract Society; sold him four dollars' worth of books to send to friends in Europe, also a dozen Testaments. Wherever he goes, he takes with him the good seed of the word.

ROCHESTER AGENCY.

NORTHERN, CENTRAL, AND WESTERN NEW YORK, AND CANADA WEST.

SUPERINTENDENT AND GENERAL AGENTS. Mr. O. D. GROSVENOR, Superintendent. Rev. A. M. STOWE, General Agent for Western New York. Rev. JOHN WARD, General Agent for Central and Northern New York.

COLPORTEURS.—NEW YORK. E. Arnold, P. Beardale, C. Benton, J. Boughton, H. Bradley, O. A. Cooper, G. A. Dillingham, J. Durfee, L. Eulner, D. A. Foster, H. Frankfurth, W. Gay, E. Grutzner, A. D. Hayford, T. Hamman, S. B. Haskell, C. Heim, F. J. Hesse, E. Judson, C. Keeler, J. Letts, S. B. Macomber, W. Marvin, L. Renne, T. P. Richards, J. Rood, J. Shultz, W. A. Simmons, D. D. Strobridge, S. Vincent, J. Wentz, F. S. Wood.

CANADA. Rev. D. Berney, T. Cooley, J. Elchin, P. Hymmen, Geo. Lung, J. Nunn, R. Torney, Rev. T. Wright.

STUDENTS.—NEW YORK. P. T. Allen, H. Armstrong, J. Bastow, J. Baskwell, J. L. Benedict, G. A. Bishop, N. W. Boomer, K. O. Broady, S. S. Chase, S. Culver, H. Day, L. D. Dayton, E. R. Davis, G. D. Downey, I. H. Dillingham, J. M. Ferris, F. D. Fenner, D. D. Hamilton, D. E. Holmes, E. L. Hunt, I. C. Jones, F. P. Lang, J. Matthews, A. Martin, L. J. Matteson, S. P. Merrill, E. B. Miner, W. P. Moon, G. A. Mark, E. B. Palmer, F. G. Reineman, A. M. Shaw, W. E. Stanton, E. F. Tanner, T. W. Wall.

CANADA. J. Campbell, J. R. Gates, H. Kropp, A. Lindsay, A. Smith, W. Smith.

Mr. O. D. GROSVENOR, who succeeds Rev. Yates Hickey as Superintendent of this agency, Mr. Hickey having been transferred to the Chicago field, gives the following view of the results of labor in the fourth year, since the agency was established at Rochester.

During the year, 81 colporteurs have been connected with us, being the same number as last year; 67 have labored in New York, and 14 in Canada West. The whole time of service amounted to 37½ years; amount of sales upon the whole field, \$23,901 82, or in volumes, 95,607; amount of grants to the destitute, \$2,646 47, in volumes, 15,879; whole number of families visited, 97,883; Romanist families, 9,642; families destitute of all religious works, 7,807; destitute of the Bible, 6,668; families habitually neglecting evangelical preaching, 14,841; families conversed and prayed with, 55,100.

Summary for the four years of the agency: Whole number of colporteurs, 204; time of service, 136½ years; amount of sales, \$93,661 30, or volumes, 374,645; amount of grants, \$11,024 45, or volumes, 66,147; amount of both sales and grants, \$104,685 75, or volumes, 440,792; number of families visited, 359,953.

The important object of securing a faithful resident colporteur for each county within the boundaries of our field, has been kept

prominently in view. There are none of them so well supplied with the means of grace as to dispense with such labor; it is greatly needed in all, and sought for by pastors and earnest Christians even who appreciate this necessity. An excellent pastor in Central New York, in a letter recommending a brother as a colporteur for his county, writes:

"The Tract enterprise, beyond all question, is one of the most important instrumentalities for the salvation of our country. The good it has accomplished is immeasurable. It carries the gospel to every man's door and knocks at every man's heart, and like the preached gospel it needs to be permanent. Every county at least, should look out the best man that can be found, and then ministers and churches cordially coöperate with him. The colporteur will reach minds the minister cannot. In one instance, three men whom I could not reach were brought, through the labors of a colporteur, to the house of God, and subsequently two of them were converted."

These calls for laborers we are meeting as fast as good and faithful men are found, to devote themselves to the work. Several have entered on this service the past year, and fields which had for some time been vacant, are put under faithful cultivation. Other promising and devoted men are now candidates for commission, and at no former period has the prospect for a speedy and permanent supply of laborers for our vacant fields appeared more promising.

To meet temporarily our present want of permanent laborers, and to effect a more immediate general distribution of labor over the entire field, much attention has been given the past year to the employment of students. Some of the principal institutions, collegiate and theological, were visited, and young men, mostly those having the ministry in view, were engaged to the number of forty, who labored two and two, expending thus about four months of labor upon most of those fields for which they were commissioned.

By this means, in addition to our regular labor, we have been able to supply, the past year, *most of the forty-three counties* embraced by the American portion of our field, with more or less of faithful colporteur labor. Many of these young men have labored for our Society the past summer for the first time, but have very generally rendered faithful, acceptable, and useful service. Their labors have served a doubly valuable purpose. They have borne to the destitute and perishing the bread of life, and "the poor have had the gospel preached to them;" while the student at the same time acknowledges an experience acquired invaluable, and indispensable to the successful dis-

charge of the duties of the Christian ministry. Pastors have assured us, from their own experience, that no young minister can be well qualified for the pastoral office, without some months of colporteur labor ; and one experienced in the schools of the prophets, recommends a fourth year in pastoral theology added to the course, to be wholly spent in the developing, spiritualizing, and disciplinary work of colportage.

Our faithful corps of resident colporteurs deserve more than a brief reference. They have pursued their arduous work the past year, frequently under difficulties, and with much self-denial. Occasional brief allusions in their reports to separation from family and home, exposure to the severity of wintry storms, hospitality withheld or tardily bestowed, indicate some of those privations and trials which have accompanied their toil. Some have been called home to attend upon the sick, or follow to the grave members of their households ; others have not known whether the cruse of oil and measure of meal which their scanty salaries afforded would suffice for their numerous wants, yet, "having obtained help of God," most who began the year with us "continue unto this day," and with renewed faith and increased interest in their work, enter upon the labor of another year. Their faithfulness, devotion, and self-denial commend them anew to your regard, and to the active sympathies, fervent prayers, and liberal support of the churches.

Every day's experience reveals more clearly the wisdom of selecting this city as a location for our depository and offices. Geographically central and very accessible, it has proved a most advantageous "post of observation" for both our home and foreign field. The various channels of communication centering here afford unusual facilities for the convenient and rapid transaction of our business. It is now widely known that here the Society have "a local habitation and a name," and the frequent calls, purchases, and expressed sympathy of friends of the cause, constantly encourage us in our work. The local and general business of the depository has a gradual and permanent growth, indicating the estimate entertained of its value and convenience to friends of the Society and the public. As a permanent agency for the various and important purposes of the Society, and a rallying point for its many patrons and friends, the depository may be considered already invaluable and indispensable.

We have sought the widest circulation for the Society's periodicals, the American Messenger, English and German, and The Child's Paper. We have had a large subscription throughout Canada, annu-

ally increasing at an encouraging ratio, our receipts this year being nearly \$2,800 for the three papers—an advance of nearly 20 per cent. upon any previous year. The importance of this department of our work is undeniable. Where our papers go, in addition to the precious and saving truths they bear, there is carried a knowledge of the Society—as a great repository of sacred and sanctifying literature—as a great instrumentality for spreading light and truth among the neglected masses and scattered population of our land, and a cheering response comes back from those thus informed—from one in relation to colportage, replying, “Here am I, send me;” another responds with a liberal gift to aid in disseminating printed truth; another saying, “Such as I have, give I unto you,” sympathy, active effort, and prayer; another rejoices to order choice volumes from our printed lists, a knowledge of which “a Messenger” has just borne to him. Some special efforts have been made for supplying all the families in certain places with the Messenger. In one village of two or three thousand inhabitants, the necessary means were readily raised, and by aid of female distributors the Messenger will be placed monthly in *over four hundred families* during the present year—an effort worthy of all praise, which we hope to see extensively copied by others hereafter. In this city the three papers are served by carriers to all desiring them, without extra charge. Several hundred families avail themselves of this privilege. There is scarcely any limit to this department of our work, and our hope is to see it speedily and widely developed and extended.

CANADA WEST.

During the year fourteen brethren have labored in connection with our Society in this province, most of them for but a portion of the year. They have however been diligent and faithful in their self-denying labors, as the following results will show.

They visited 11,994 families, with 6,949 of whom they held personal conversation or prayed; they found 864 families destitute of all religious books but the Bible, 643 destitute of the word of God, 589 families of Romanists, and 1,421 who wholly neglected public worship. They sold \$5,665 29 worth, or 22,661 volumes of the Society's publications, and granted to the amount of \$415 63, or 2,494 volumes. The amount of sales and grants was \$6,080 92.

Four of these brethren were Germans, laboring with much success among their countrymen. Very many of them enjoy only such means of grace as the colporteur bears to them, and the welcome our

brethren receive, and the fruits of their labor which it is often their privilege to see, are most encouraging.

Rev. THOMAS WRIGHT labored a large portion of the year with great acceptance as a colporteur and missionary in the counties of Lincoln and Welland. He awakened a deep interest in the Tract cause in the minds of the people. By his labors and the assistance of some students the gospel was borne to a large portion of all the families on that field, and preached faithfully in many neighborhoods where any suitable place of worship could be found. His services were relinquished by the people with much regret, upon his recent removal and appointment as a general agent of the Society in Michigan.

The Upper Canada Tract Society, at Toronto, assumed the direction of colportage the past year over the larger portion of the western province, a few counties only being under the supervision of other societies. A general agent was employed during the year, who visited the churches, made collections, formed auxiliaries, and sought more fully to interest the people in the Tract work. He has met with much encouragement in prosecuting his labors. This Society have added to the number of their colporteurs the past year, and hope to interest the people to such a degree as to insure at no distant day a self-supporting basis for colporteur operations in Canada West.

From a review of the present aspects of the Tract work in Canada West, it appears that the system of colportage, as there prosecuted by our Society, and the circulation quite extensively of information and statistics concerning it, were the means of calling the attention of the Christian people of that province to the great value of such an instrumentality.

The Rev. A. M. STOWE, General Agent for Western New York, and Rev. JOHN WARD, who labored most of the year in Northern and Central New York, have presented interesting reports of their labors. Mr. Stowe says :

In aid of the American Tract Society's great work, these twenty western counties of our state have contributed in donations during the year the sum of *ten thousand and four dollars and ninety cents*. There have also been paid in legacies from this field during the same period, *six thousand one hundred and fifty dollars*; making in all, during the year ending March 1, \$16,154 90.

I have found no Christian family that does not acknowledge the mission of the American Tract Society to be very important. It would

be strange if they did not thus testify, for I do not know of a Christian family in Western New York which has not been in some degree blessed in the perusal of the publications issued by this institution.

It is indeed gratifying to learn that you have now in their large and difficult fields of toil so many earnest, faithful colporteurs bearing from house to house the precious Bible, and those books and tracts which explain and enforce the truths of the Bible. The child and the old man upon his staff, as well as the active man of business, are all furnished with something appropriate. In the wilderness, in the sunny south, over the prairie, and on the mountain, are their healing leaves scattered, accompanied by the earnest counsel and fervent prayers of godly men. The good Lord speed the day when you will be able to say that every family in our land has been reached with the words of eternal life.

In Western New York the feeling is very prevalent, that if we would influence for good to the greatest possible extent those of our fellow-men who seldom if ever enter the house of God, we must go and sit down by their firesides, and from a full heart utter in kindness and in love the message that Jesus bids us speak: "Except a man be born again, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

The man who breathes the spirit of his Master is usually more than welcome to these abodes of want, and after a visit of an hour the wise servant of our Lord will be enabled to leave, either by sale or by gift, the Bible, and "some preacher with it, such as Baxter, or Bunyan, or Doddridge, or Payson."

In this way have your colporteurs, during this past year, installed as stated preachers in the wilderness, tens of thousands of these stirring books, which may speak every day in the year concerning the great salvation.

A pastor located at the west, devoted and in every way efficient, whose voice in the pulpit, and in every appropriate place, has done much for the cause of truth, bears the following testimony respecting the colporteurs of the American Tract Society and their work:

"Colportage embodies in itself two of the most powerful agencies for good that the world has ever seen; namely, the *living voice* and the *printed page*. Simple weapons, but how effective. The simplicity of this system is its glory. The colporteur is a plain, unpretending man. He is taken, it may be, as Elisha was, from ploughing with oxen; or, like David, from tending his father's sheep. Like Peter and John, they are not professional men, and like them also, their greatest qualification is, that they have been with Jesus. They

come not with the learning of our highest schools and seminaries, but Bible truth in Bible language is their single message. But the earnest look, the honest countenance, the kind words, and the overflowing heart, are all there to make truth effectual."

This testimony comes from one who has seen the practical workings of the colporteur system in our great West. If the American churches desire, this system, simple and scriptural, may pervade this whole country; it may pour a stream of light into every desolate neighborhood, and every troubled heart. Proof of its cheapness, of its efficiency, and of its adaptation, is abundant, and there is no want of confidence in it by any who love God and their fellow-men.

Let the prayers of all believers go up for more efficient laborers to toil among those who perish for lack of vision.

SELECTIONS FROM REPORTS OF COLPORTEURS.

A colporteur in Northern New York writes, I am more and more convinced of the importance and value of this manner of preaching the gospel. I have found many instances where persons have not heard a sermon for years, and we have reason to fear that the gospel would never have reached them, if it had not been carried to them on the printed page. I rejoice that I am permitted to be a "saddle-bags preacher"—that in the solemn, persuasive, and melting language of Baxter, Doddridge, and all that long list of worthies whose names are connected with the Society's publications, I am permitted to preach the pure gospel of the Son of God where perhaps the living preacher's footsteps were never seen, or his voice heard. I called on a family, and found the mother at home. She could not buy any books, for she had no money. When I introduced the subject of religion, she immediately burst into tears, and sat down. When a little more composed, she said she was brought up by one of the best women in the world, and regularly attended church and Sabbath-school; but said she, "I married, and *have not heard a sermon in eight years.*" I conversed with her freely, and prayed with her and her children. I concluded from their appearance, that it was the first prayer they ever heard. I handed the woman a few tracts, but feeling that I could hardly leave her with so little, I gave her Baxter's Call, thinking that if I meet with no other case for three months, this will more than compensate for the labor and toil of that brief period.

I have previously mentioned an effort put forth on an island in the S. L.—river. Satan tried to put a stop to the good work of instruction in the Sabbath-school there, by causing a diversion in their feeble ranks, which at first consisted of only three or four females; but God has overruled it for good. They have now two schools instead of one; and in one, composed mostly of children from the families of French Catholics, the scholars have committed and recited almost thirteen hundred verses of the Bible; and thus much good seed has been scattered and stored in the minds of the children. I assisted in establishing two schools in a back neighborhood known as the "Lost Nation," where the children have most of them been induced to attend; and thus many, both of the old and young, have been brought in contact with the Bible, that probably would have neglected it altogether, if it had not been for this feeble effort.

Another from the same part of the state says, I have abundant reason to be-

lieve my labors have not been in vain in the Lord. I have visited 1,810 families, being upwards of nine on an average daily, including the Sabbath. I conversed with nearly one-half concerning the salvation of their souls, or prayed with them. One-fourth are in the habit of neglecting evangelical preaching.

In many neighborhoods there is very seldom preaching, either on the Sabbath or week-day, and in quite a number of our churches the preaching is far from being evangelical. There are hundreds who are cut off from religious instruction, and must have the gospel carried to them, or be left in darkness and sin. Many, were it not for the system of colportage, would, humanly speaking, be left to perish for lack of knowledge. This work is admirably adapted to meet and supply their spiritual wants. I am frequently encouraged in hearing professors of religion speak of the blessed effects produced on their hearts in reading these books—that they are awakened, instructed, encouraged, strengthened, and blessed in their perusal. The influence of the books has led a great many persons to reading, and moral and religious feeling has increased. Several revivals have lately taken place—one in my own town. How far these books have been the means of bringing about so many revivals of religion and so many conversions, is only known to God. As my work advances, its spiritual character and objects are better understood. Opposition is declining, and friends are multiplying. It is admirably adapted to do good throughout the country, as there is a lack of preachers; and generally speaking, they are but little accustomed to paying pastoral visits. *Perhaps upwards of one-half of the families on my field have not as yet received a religious visit from a minister of the gospel during their residence here.* Many have to go a distance of four, six, eight, and ten miles to hear the gospel preached. Many also who live in sight of a meeting-house, hardly ever attend the preached word. How all-important that the gospel should be carried to them, and that colporteurs labor with them for their spiritual well-being.

LABORS IN SCHOOLS.—An experienced brother in Western New York writes, This department of labor is to me very interesting, and one from which I am expecting a rich harvest. The number of scholars in the different schools and seminaries I visit, is from twenty to two hundred. After addressing the pupils, I distribute tracts and books of the cheaper binding, which at the close of the school take wings as messengers of mercy and fly in every direction. Our present Judge of the county said to a friend a few days ago, "I am surprised at the good influence exerted upon the young by those rich juvenile gems which Mr. B—— is scattering over the land." At another time, he spoke of this department of my labors in very cheering terms. Shortly after a visit to a school of young ladies, a friend living near by said to me, "I think your visit to that school did much good. I can see a marked change in the deportment of the scholars in the yard and in the street. I say this, that it might encourage you in your good work." On my visit at a house in the town of A——, the lady of the house said to me, "Miss ——," referring to a young lady in another room, "when she came home from school the other day, sat down and wept heartily." The young lady then explained. "When I saw you in the seminary, I thought of the words you spoke and the tract you gave me at the school in W——. That tract was, I trust, the means of leading me and another dear friend to the Saviour. Since then I had not seen you until the other day; you will not wonder why I wept when I returned to my boarding-place." Then, amid grateful smiles and falling tears, she said, "I thank you very much."

Said a gentleman to me a few weeks since, "The book you let me have has been greatly blessed to me; a precious treasure indeed it has been." He has since

made a profession of religion, and united with the church ; is at the head of one of the largest literary institutions in this region ; holds religious meetings with pupils during the week, and instructs on the Sabbath a Bible-class of about one hundred young gentlemen and ladies belonging to the institution.

A few months ago I visited a town which I had traversed before, and at the close of an address to a Sabbath congregation, the pastor arose and said, "I have a few words to say in favor of this good cause. Doubtless you will remember that full three-fourths of those added to the church during the late revival, dated their first serious impressions to the reading of some book or tract of the American Tract Society. I have reason to remember the labors of brother B—— among the people of my former charge, by means of which some souls were led to the Saviour. Many were the happy hours we spent in laboring from house to house together. Soon after this he visited an adjoining town, and an interesting revival of religion followed his labors there, in which sixty souls were hopefully converted as the result of God's blessing upon his humble work."

A colporteur laboring in Western New York, writes, There have been some interesting visitations of the divine Spirit during the winter on this field. In a place that has been noted for impiety and sin of all kinds from its earliest settlement, there has always been one praying family, with whom I have stayed when visiting the village. Since 1853, I have more than once canvassed the place. The last time I visited there, I found three praying families. On the Sabbath we held service, and in the evening held a prayer-meeting, which was well attended. Since that time, the prayers of those Christians, together with the labors of the Society, have been answered by a powerful revival, in which about forty souls have been converted, over half of them heads of families. Among the number was one man between 60 and 70 years old, who was a professed infidel, and many who were once sceptics ; and the place once noted for its impiety, is now noted for its love of God and the religion of the Bible. To use the language of a brother who resides there, "Where you could hardly find a praying family once, you can now scarcely find one who does not pray." In another place where I formed a Sabbath-school two years ago, almost against the wishes of the few Christian friends, because they thought it could not be sustained, the school was well sustained and a revival followed ; and this winter they have again been refreshed by the outpouring of the Spirit in the conviction and conversion of sinners. The Sabbath-schools I formed last year are mostly flourishing now, as far as I am acquainted. I have replenished several of them with the Society's publications. I have formed a new one, which I have furnished with a library.

A brother who has been laboring as a colporteur upon a railroad, writes, I have labored during the past year most of the time. My field is the Rome and Watertown railroad, which I have been on for four years. The general features of the field are little changed. There are different officers, operatives, rules, and regulations, of course, from time to time. The past year a new superintendent came on the road, who has cheerfully permitted me to go on with my labors. I have perfect access to, and freedom with all who go over the road, whether passengers or otherwise. I am often encouraged by those I meet, who tell me my cause is a good one ; that they are happy to see me continue in the work from year to year, and are glad the American Tract Society have colporteurs, especially on railroads ; that they wish they might be on every one in the land, counteracting the pernicious effects of a corrupt literature. If I sell to a person once, I am far more likely to sell to him the next time the opportunity presents itself. I now recollect

but one instance where an individual to whom I had sold a book, when he had read it expressed dissatisfaction. The tracts I have distributed gratuitously have been received with much respect, and often with deep gratitude, and I have every reason to suppose they have accomplished much good.

A faithful brother laboring in Canada West writes, The seed is sown, and I have no doubt God will bless it to many precious souls. An old pensioner was in a house at which I called, swearing furiously. I stopped some time, but found he gloried in it. I left the house without saying or doing any thing, and visited a Catholic family, and left some tracts. I felt uneasy all night about the swearer's soul. So I arose in good time in the morning, and inquired if he was in. They said he was in bed. I stepped into the room, and said, "Sir, here is a message from God unto you; hoping that you will take warning, and that tongue of yours praise Him whom it has so long blasphemed." He jumped upon the floor, and followed me into the next room, trembling. I kneeled down and prayed, and the Spirit was with us. Every eye moistened and every heart heaved, and the Spirit made intercession for us. When I arose, it seemed as though every one was disarmed of strength for some time. They arose, but could not speak. I exhorted them, and left. Without one word the swearer's mouth was stopped, and he found himself guilty before God. The man of the house followed me, but could not speak for some time. At last he said, "Sir, who are you, and what are you?" A few days after, I found that that swearer was a changed man.

Another individual I called on several times, but could not sell any books. Hearing that I was going to have a meeting about four miles from there, he attended. I spoke on the natural man. He said if that doctrine was true that I proclaimed from the gospel, they were no better than heathen; and he sought forgiveness, and joined a church. He took his wife and family with him, and was baptized. Then I could sell him books. To a Universalist in that neighborhood I could not sell any books. I prayed with him, and went away. I called again and again, but could sell no books. I persuaded him to go to meeting, when I spoke from the words, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." He went home troubled; and as soon as he got home, he kneeled down and prayed for the first time in his life. He said he never had any thing take hold of him before. He said "*they would all have been heathen, but for the Tract Society.*" He joined the church, and rejoices in a hope of salvation.

Another Universalist heard the same sermon. His sandy foundation soon gave way, and he found he had nothing to stand upon. He applied to Jesus for religion to die by. Before, I could not sell one book to those persons. Afterwards I sold nearly \$30 worth to them, which will, through the blessing of God, keep them faithful to the end.

GERMAN COLPORTAGE IN CITY AND COUNTRY.

A brother writes from a city in Western New York, In looking back over the year, I would say as David did, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." I can say, to the praise of God, that some are come to a knowledge of their sins through these efforts in their behalf. In many places I hear it said, "I am thankful, under God, to the Tract Society and their colporteurs, for the salvation of my soul. If it had not been for this or that book, I still should be in blindness and error, and know nothing of my blessed Saviour." Especially I wish to speak of a young infidel, who is now hopefully converted. He had been a great enemy to the religion of Jesus Christ, and with many others had ridiculed active

Christians ; yet once he received a small book called "The Way of Salvation." This book had been read by him, and then he began to visit an evangelical church occasionally at the evening service. Not long after he received some other good books, and also the good "Botschafter," which he read, and soon became alarmed about his state of mind. After a few weeks I met him again. Now he brought the joyful message that Jesus his Saviour had taken away his sins. He is praising God now with a blessed hope, and has been lately each evening to his old associates, to convince them of their dangerous state. It has had some effect, and some have been to hear the gospel preached. He also gave them books, and I have a good hope that he will be useful to them, and lead them to Christ.

Another city colporteur among the Germans says, When I look over my field, I can praise God ; for during the short time I have labored, many Roman-catholics have been brought to the truth, and are now walking in the path of life. Several more are seeking earnestly for salvation. I hope they are not far from the kingdom of God. It is joyful to see how the truth begins to dawn on those "living in darkness and the shadow of death." I can especially say this concerning my own countrymen and brethren after the flesh in this city. The unbelief which has taken so deep hold on the German mind, is giving way ; and among the Roman-catholics especially the word of God with its light and knowledge is increasing in favor fast, so that many are becoming evangelical, and are seeking the pure light of the gospel. May God send his blessing upon the city more abundantly, and especially bless the labors of all connected with our Society.

A veteran laborer writes in regard to labors in the country, I had a blessed time on my old field lately. I saw some fruit of my last year's labors. Friends came to me, old and young, to give me their hands, and begged me to come again and pray with them, and to give tracts. Two years ago I came to a family of young people without children, and called their attention to eternal things. They said they could not meet God in peace, but would try to seek him earnestly. I asked if they would like to kneel down with me to pray. When we prayed to our blessed Saviour, both of them wept. They promised to seek till God should answer, and I went on my way. About six weeks ago I came into that neighborhood again, and visited that family. The wife came to me with a joyful heart, and said, "Walk into the house, dear friend of God." Then she told me what a blessing my visit and that good book which they bought, "Nelson on Infidelity," had been to her house. When the husband came, he said "I was his spiritual father and brother ; that he and his wife had since received what they prayed for before, the forgiveness of their sins." He bought \$4 worth of books. Two years ago I came to a poor place, and visited an old man past his 65th year, who was making shingles. He said he was not a Christian, but did not wish to die in such a state of mind. I told him he would go in his sins to destruction. During our earnest conversation his heart was broken, and he wept. I asked if he would kneel down with me. "There is no one around us ; we will pray to God ;" and we did so upon some splinters, and prayed for forgiveness for the old man. He wept like a child, and promised to follow my advice. I praise God that he did. Three weeks ago I visited the same place again. I asked for the old man. His neighbors said, "God did wonders for him. He does not drink or swear any more, but is a praying man." I visited him. He met me with a trembling hand and smiling face, declaring what the Lord had done for him by reading that little book and tract which I gave him. I went to my work again rejoicing.

PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH.

OFFICE AND DEPOSITORY, NO. 929 CHESTNUT-STREET, ONE DOOR BELOW TENTH, PHILADELPHIA.

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The Rev. Dr. GOERTNER, Corresponding Secretary, in behalf of the Executive Committee of this Branch, presents the record of another year of successful effort, and shows the importance of catholic colportage to meet the wants of the field occupied.

There have been in the employment of this Branch, during the whole or a part of the year, 153 colporteurs, including 56 students.

Of the whole number commissioned, 44 used both the German

and English languages ; 2 exclusively the German ; one devoted his time to the Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians in the northern counties of this state ; 108 labored in Pennsylvania, 28 in Ohio, 9 in Virginia, 6 in New Jersey, and 2 in Delaware.

The aggregate time of service has been equal to 50 years 3 months and 8 days. They visited 140,612 families ; conversed and prayed with 77,431 ; they found 18,158 families who habitually neglected evangelical preaching ; 5,717 were destitute of religious books except the Bible ; 6,266, exclusive of Roman-catholics, were destitute of the word of God ; 9,937 families of Roman-catholics were visited.

The circulation of books and tracts by this Branch during the year, is equal to 213,959 volumes of the average size ; the reading matter of the American Messenger and The Child's Paper, the monthly circulation of which from this office has now reached nearly 55,000 copies, would equal 111,168 similar volumes ; making the entire circulation from this depository over 81,280,000 pages.

Of this amount, there has been gratuitously distributed by colporteurs, agents, and others, including specific grants of 238,970 pages to shipping, 174,570 to criminal and humane institutions, 343,320 to missionaries and others, 459,920 to mission Sabbath-schools, 174,570 to emigrants—9,885,780 pages, which at the Society's prices amount to \$6,590 92.

Receipts during the past year, from sales made by colporteurs, \$27,943 74 ; in store, including American Messenger and Child's Paper, \$16,127 76 ; donations, \$15,145 90 : making the entire receipts from the field, \$59,217 40.

The expenditures during the year, including the salaries and expenses of 153 colporteurs, corresponding secretary, four general agents, superintendent of colportage, clerks in store, rent, insurance, taxes, fuel, light, postage, exchange, printing, advertising, and repairs, amount to \$32,313 80. The receipts, including the proceeds of sales, exceed the expenditures by \$26,903 60.

A comparison of these labors with those of the previous year shows a cheering enlargement of the operations of the Society, and that avenues of usefulness and success will in all probability continue to present themselves as rapidly as the means of more extended evangelization are afforded. Thirty colporteurs have been added to the number of the preceding year.

It is impossible of course to estimate the results of these operations upon the everlasting welfare of individuals, and upon the diffusion of that conservative power by which the national prosperity is

to be promoted. These results ramify in so many directions, and work out so many new centres of sanctifying influence, that no one but the omniscient Being can trace them as they reach out and spread with the various relations of society.

Let the single fact be considered, that more than 140,000 families have been visited during the past year, and that these families may be supposed to contain from seven to eight hundred thousand souls, and that very many of these would have been altogether destitute of religious instruction but for this instrumentality, and we shall be able to form an almost overwhelming conception of the probable good that has been accomplished. It is well known how rapidly society degenerates when left to itself, when the process of corruption is allowed to go on without the intervention of a corrective element; nor is it irrational to suppose that in many of the families thus visited, and who have heard the voice of admonition and prayer, the tendency to deterioration has been arrested. It is impossible indeed to arrive at any other conclusion, with a knowledge of those laws which control the action of the human mind, and give shape to human character and intercourse.

"The kingdom of heaven is like seed cast into the ground." Some indeed may fall upon the rock, and some upon the beaten path, but in a field as wide-spread as that occupied by this Society, it is improbable that there should be no mellow spots, no hearts prepared for the reception of the truth. Happily, however, we are not left to mere conjecture in regard to this matter; we are cheered and encouraged by numerous facts, and compelled to believe that character is rightly developed, and that souls are saved under the action of this simple, unpretending, yet powerful instrumentality. Miracles not unlike the one that occurred at Sychar, where the harvest waved in beauty almost as soon as the seed was sown, have been multiplied over the field of our labors. The colporteur, self-denying, earnest, intent upon winning souls, who went out trembling it may be in the morning with his precious seed, has often returned at night bringing his sheaves with him.

The testimony of colporteurs is a noble monument to the praise of that God who sends his Spirit along with the truth to enlighten and save. Discouragements are no argument against perseverance, nor should they paralyze effort. The wonder is, not that these humble preachers of righteousness should occasionally be repulsed, and sometimes maltreated, and that the message of salvation which they bring should be trampled in the dust, but that these open and de-

cided manifestations of enmity are not more frequent. It must be remembered that they daily come into contact with and labor among those who are voluntary neglecters of the means of grace, and that the reason why God is not sought by these neglecters is that he is hated, and yet these haters of God, depraved and reckless as many of them are, are frequently touched and subdued by the very first utterances of truth ; instead of bitter words, are often heard anxious inquiries for the way of life.

Another fact worthy of notice, and by no means the least prominent, connected with our operations is, that fifty-six students have been employed as colporteurs during the past year. The most of these, if not all, are looking forward to the ministry, and in the colporteur work have gathered experience peculiarly adapted to their efficiency in the ministerial field. These students have visited from house to house, have learned to talk to individuals plainly and personally about their salvation, and will be likely to carry with them, into the ministerial office, a practice which they have found evidently useful to others and equally advantageous to themselves.

As to the peculiar work of the Society, in distinction from that of denominational boards or organizations, our conviction is strengthened, that the longer these agencies work together side by side, the more manifest will it be that each has a mission to perform which the other could not execute, and that each therefore is demanded in the complement of evangelical instrumentalities.

The Rev. Dr. DeWitt of Harrisburg, in an address before the Pennsylvania synod of the Presbyterian church, gives reliable statistics and facts in reference to the religious condition of thirty counties of Pennsylvania lying between the Delaware river and the Alleghany mountains, the oldest, most populous, and wealthy counties in the state, having a population of about 1,200,000.

Within this territory there are sixteen Protestant denominations, having altogether about 1,800 churches, and there are not less than 400,000, or about one-third of the entire population, who are neither directly nor indirectly connected with any religious denomination, who, as immortal beings, without God and without hope in the world, either excluding themselves, or excluded from the means of grace, and hastening to an eternal retribution, have strong claims on our Christian sympathies and effort ; and what can be done for them ?

Various obstacles in the way of laboring successfully for their benefit in the mode in which missionary operations are usually con-

ducted are referred to, and he says, "Were these 400,000 individuals settled by themselves in ten of the thirty counties, it would be comparatively easy, if we had the men and the money, to send 400 missionaries among them, (one for every thousand,) and sustain them until they had established themselves and built up the institutions of religion. But instead of being separate, they are scattered among the other 800,000, and there are but few places where any religious denomination could plant a missionary with reasonable hope that he would build up, in the course of five or even ten years, a self-sustaining church, that is, with the ordinary success that now attends home missionary labors."

Another difficulty is mentioned as arising from sectarian jealousies that prevail over this field, and some striking illustrations are given of its effects upon the practical working of the ordinary instrumentalities.

There is still another consideration which urges the necessity of evangelical effort on this field. It is estimated that a large portion of the 800,000, who are supposed to have some either remote or immediate connection with the 1,800 churches within the thirty counties referred to—at least one-third—do not come under the influence of the preached gospel and the means of grace, to an extent that would warrant a reasonable hope of their conversion to God. The question recurs then with new interest, after all these facts have been pressed upon our consideration, What can be done for this large portion of our population, who are living without God and without hope in the world?

It appears that if they are to be reached at all, it must be by an agency which, while it is strictly evangelical, is yet not denominational—an agency in which all evangelical denominations have confidence, and which will interfere with the separate and peculiar interests of none—an agency which will labor for human salvation, and not for denominational progress—an agency which each denomination can welcome as an effectual coworker in what, after all, is or should be the main object of denominational activity, the gathering of the lost into the fold of the great Shepherd.

The colporteur goes forth on his message of love, not to build up one or another denomination as such, but to proclaim human guilt and divine compassion, and point the sinner to the cross. His aim is man's conversion to God, leaving the denominational relations of each one to be decided by circumstances which he does not pretend to shape or manage.

A witness writes, "In T—— county a pastor was wont to go semi-monthly some twenty-nine miles across the rough Alleghany mountains, to preach to three German congregations composing part of his charge. He invited a brother in the employ of this Society to come and visit his church, and bring the truth to bear upon the consciences of men. The result was, the gathering into the church of some thirty, on the profession of their faith, the spontaneous raising of the pastor's salary to three times what it formerly was, the purchase of a house and land for his use, and preaching every Sabbath ; family altars in every direction, prayer-meetings, and Sabbath-schools were established and well attended. I have since visited this people, and find them growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Facts like this might be multiplied, showing not only that pastors of different evangelical denominations regard the colporteur of this Society as a helper to their ministry, but also the grounds on which this confidence is based.

An influential minister of the Lutheran church says, in a letter dated L——, August 11, 1856, "Enclosed you will find a check on L—— bank for fifty dollars, on Mr. W——'s account. He has now finished our county, and a good work he has done ; his influence for good no man can calculate. The seeds of piety and of sound religious views which he has scattered over our county will, I trust, yield an abundant harvest for the glory of our blessed Saviour. Not a hamlet, as far as is known, has been passed by unnoticed ; not a mansion, however fear-inspiring, has deterred him from entering, and speaking a word for Christ and his cause. Humble, self-denying, and laborious, he has accomplished a work over which, in many particulars, angels and the Lord of angels, have no doubt rejoiced. Families which in all probability no minister of the gospel would ever have reached, have had through him the gospel preached unto them. It is confidently believed that there is not a household left in this county that could honestly urge the plea, that no man had cared for their souls. Your colporteur has not ceased day nor night to warn, oft times with tears, men and women to flee from the wrath to come ; he has awakened, indeed, enmity and animosity, but only where lovers of darkness and haters of the light have their abode, and where freezing formalism and chilling indifferentism have deadened the conscience and blunted the sensibility to truth. I verily believe that the fervent prayers he has offered up to the God of all grace, in behalf of the impenitent and the sanctification of God's people, will not remain unanswered. The day

of eternity will tell that the saddle-bags preacher has been through L—— county. May God's blessing rest on the unostentatious but none the less truly faithful labors of this self-denying, devoted servant of Christ, and may the Society that sends out such messengers of salvation continue to receive, as it has hitherto, the smiles of heaven, and the coöperation of the lovers of a *living, active Christianity*."

With such testimony coming from every quarter, we must believe that catholic colportage meets the difficulty of access to the neglected masses arising from denominational jealousy.

Then, again as to the efficiency of this mode of evangelization, and its ability to act upon the entire field of destitution : in this field, during the past year, our colporteurs have visited no less than 140,612 families, containing probably 700,000 souls, and in each of these families has been left some word for Christ, either printed or spoken, and they have conversed or prayed with 77,431 families, containing some 387,000 individuals. It will be borne in mind that there are some 400,000 individuals in thirty counties alone, on this field, who are neither directly nor indirectly connected with any religious denomination. Our colporteurs have conversed and prayed with nearly that number, and have visited 300,000 more than that number ; and though their visits have not been entirely confined to those who are not connected with any religious denomination, yet it is easy to perceive that the number of laborers might be so increased as to reach every one of the 400,000 referred to.

We are told that if the 400,000 could be settled by themselves, in ten of the thirty counties, it would be comparatively easy, if the men and the money were at hand, to send 400 missionaries among them ; but 400 colporteurs would find them out, scattered as they are, whether dwelling on the mountain top or in the valley, whether living in compact settlements or separated miles from each other, and install in every family a household preacher. The colporteur goes out as an explorer to stir up the careless, and rouse them, if possible, to the perception of their moral relations and duties, so that they will be constrained to seek the means of grace, and place themselves under the guardianship of neighboring churches, or else band together for the support of a minister or the partial support of a missionary among themselves.

Rev. E. M. L——, one of the agents of the Society, testifies, "Having during the past year travelled about 6,000 miles to and fro on this field, and spoken over two hundred times in the different churches, I can truly say that I everywhere met with a cordial reception, and

have heard a universal testimony borne as to the necessity, usefulness, and adaptedness of this work, to meet the wants of the destitute and needy. German pastors with their large pastoral charges are willing to acknowledge that the colporteur, engaged in his proper calling, is a very important auxiliary in their arduous work. One pastor told me that he much needed the help of the colporteur's visits, as he found it impossible to attend to pastoral visitations, having a charge of five churches, numbering some fifteen hundred members, scattered over a district of some twenty miles' square, and said he, 'Although I have been preaching to these people over six years, yet I do not even know the one-half, no, nor the one-fourth of them; my time is consumed in attending to my official duties.'

In this testimony we have an additional reason stated for the efficiency of our operations. Our colporteurs, many of them, speak the German language, and thus have access to a large portion of the population excluded by language from a great share of denominational effort.

Other proofs of efficiency might be mentioned, were they needed; one, however, may be added in reference to the influence of the printed truth that is scattered all over the field wherever the colporteur goes.

"In B—— county," says Mr. L——, "I visited a section in one of the so-called dark corners, and to my surprise I found a flourishing prayer-meeting and Sabbath-school, and received a contribution of one hundred and thirty dollars in money; inquiring into the history of the matter, I was informed that it originated in the labors of a Christian who was brought to Christ through a publication of the American Tract Society. I attended the prayer-meeting, and was invited to go home with a young man and his two sisters who were anxiously seeking the pearl of great price, and seemed to be waiting for some one to come and lead them to the Saviour. They have since professed faith in him, and the brother is now preparing to enter the ministry. Surely this is precious fruit growing out of the seed contained in that one volume of the Society."

Much might be said of this literature, and of the readiness with which ministers of all denominations welcome it in the families of their churches, because it is strictly and unexceptionably evangelical, without being sectarian or denominational. This argument might be lengthened to almost any extent, and facts almost without number might be introduced to show the actual good which the Society's operations have accomplished in the field under the care of the Pennsylvania Branch, but it is unnecessary.

It is notorious that revivals do follow the labors of our colporteurs, that individuals are converted through their instrumentality, many of whom had never been conversed with on the subject of religion, and probably never would have been, but for this instrumentality. It is known that Sunday-school and church organizations, and the increase of the membership of churches already formed, do follow in their wake, and while we feel constrained to ascribe all to the glory of God, we do at the same time recognize in this unpretending agency the channel through which God has been, and is now extensively working.

VIRGINIA AGENCY.

VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA.

SUPERINTENDENT—Mr. J. Cross. **GENERAL AGENTS**—Rev. M. J. Sumner, Rev. G. Kennedy, Mr. W. J. W. Crowder.

COLPORTEURS.—**VIRGINIA**. R. W. Berryman, J. E. Bundick, E. Christian, J. C. Clopton, H. K. Craig, J. S. Crostick, H. Curry, E. Cuthriell, T. W. Edwards, L. D. Hager, S. Harper, B. Hardman, J. W. Howe, L. Hubble, G. Huffman, S. Iddins, J. W. Inge, W. E. Logan, P. Lowther, E. Lunsford, S. H. Martin, J. E. McSparan, W. H. Mitchell, L. C. Newman, H. W. Owen, J. E. Perry, R. J. Pryor, L. D. Reichman, S. Rexroad, W. P. Reynolds, C. J. Rippetoes, S. M. Rose, C. R. Ross, O. M. T. Samuels, S. Scott, A. L. Strange, W. Tinsley, H. Trent, A. G. Walker, W. G. Waren, W. J. Witherington, A. Wood, J. A. Woodard.

Students—T. W. Hooper, W. H. Agnew, W. F. M. Jacobs, J. B. Shearer.

NORTH CAROLINA. J. M. Andrews, W. G. Beard, E. K. Blanton, J. R. Blanton, W. J. Blanton, L. C. Brooks, S. H. Brooks, J. Cain, S. Callaway, C. A. Curtis, J. F. Corsbie, W. Dalton, G. W. Farabee, C. Gassaway, E. Grimes, P. Grimes, A. F. Harris, J. W. Heath, T. E. Hine, J. Holland, J. A. Huggins, A. A. Justice, J. M. Kennet, P. Kistler, J. H. Laton, R. B. Lawrence, J. F. Mallett, J. H. Massey, B. S. Moore, R. A. Moore, C. K. Parker, T. L. D. Smith, G. Smoot, D. W. Thompson, W. W. Thornton, J. M. Watson, M. L. Weller, J. W. Whitfield, W. Womack, E. B. Yarborough.

PROVIDENTIAL HISTORY OF COLPORTAGE IN THESE TWO STATES.

TWELVE years, says Mr. Cross, are now numbered with the past since the present superintendent entered the service of the American Tract Society. Little did he think when the partner of his joys and sorrows was smitten down in a few hours by the hand of death, that it was the call of God for his feeble efforts to be devoted to the work of saving souls. He was supporting his family on a little farm, conducting prayer-meetings, and superintending a Sabbath-school in Western Pennsylvania, and when all the wounds of this sore bereave-

ment were open and bleeding, the Rev. S. T. Wells, one of the general agents, visited the church to which he belonged, presented the wants of our country, the adaptation of colportage and the publications of the Tract Society to meet those wants, and stated, moreover, that a good man in the city of Wheeling offered to pay the salary of one who would enter on the work in Western Virginia. He felt as if he was called to enter the work, but dreaded the responsibility. At the close of the service, the claims of this work were further spread before him; the mysterious providence by which he had been bereaved seemed to be solved. His prayer for a week was, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" and his heart answered, "Here, Lord, am I; send me." He was commissioned for Western Virginia, but, at the request of the agent, consented to labor a few weeks in the suburbs of Pittsburg, among the laborers in the coal mines.

On the first day of November, 1844, he went to the field of his labor near Pittsburg. A full view of the bustling thousands whose salvation he was to seek, their neglect of God and religion, their intemperance and profanity, made him shrink from his task, and sent him trembling to the throne of grace. And had it not been for the kind sympathy of the Rev. S. C. J——, and the help of God, he would have fled like Jonah from Nineveh. He engaged a good Methodist brother to accompany him, and in the first three days they visited, conversed, and prayed with seventy-six families; were kindly received, listened to with attention, and frequently tears flowed from penitent hearts.

His labors were continued there for six weeks, among shanties and in the mines among the colliers. Many of them were induced to attend church, and professed religion, who attributed the change to these visits and books. Often did he see streaks made by tears running down their blackened cheeks, while pointing them to the Saviour; and he furnished them Bunyan and Baxter, to preach to them by their glimmering lamps. This first effort satisfied him that there were thousands who would be reached by no other agency but colportage, and that God's truth could save the most degraded of our ruined race.

In the last of December, 1844, he began his labors in Brooke county, Virginia, and continued them till the middle of April, visiting families, talking and praying all day, and holding prayer-meetings almost every night. Within one year from the time he began, nearly one hundred were added to one church, and a goodly number to other churches. One of the pastors said his labors and books had done

great good, and prepared the way for the work. One copy of Baxter's Call, which was stolen and sold, was the means of awakening eight persons.

About the 1st of May, 1845, he went into M—— county, and by the aid of a pious lawyer at the county-seat, sold \$150 worth of books in two days. He then went to the mountains, but was not prepared to witness such ignorance and destitution. In some instances he visited ten families without finding a religious book, not even a whole copy of the Bible, and whole households in which no one knew the alphabet. Children nearly grown had never heard of Jesus Christ except in profanity, and did not know what prayer meant; and often, while telling them of God and divine things, they would look at him with deep amazement, or run away frightened. What to do among such a people he knew not. To many of them books were of no use. He soon thought of Sabbath-schools as the only remedy, and commenced looking for the best qualified persons for teachers, urged all to attend, gave them a small library with directions how to use it, and then passed into another valley and did a similar work.

For six months he labored mainly in this way, often weary and faint from labor and exposure where none of the comforts of life were to be obtained. But no period of his life is reviewed with so much pleasure as this. Although the fruit was not gathered by him, the seed sown has helped to build churches and school-houses and prepared the way for other instrumentalities of good, and a great change for the better has taken place.

As the year for which he had engaged was drawing near a close, he proposed, with the consent of the Committee, to employ some one, or more, to carry on the work; and as the means were wanting, seeing the great need of the work, he resolved to try to obtain means, and in four weeks collected \$740. Before the year closed he recommended three men to be commissioned as colporteurs, one of whom labored four years very successfully. He was urged by the Committee to continue; obstacles of great magnitude rose up before him, but the hand that removed the first one gently removed all the others, and he pursued his work.

The second year he devoted a part of his efforts to collecting money and hunting up suitable men for colporteurs. He explored to some extent all the counties south as far as the Kanawha river, and east to the Alleghany mountains; and by the fall of 1845 had seven colaborers employed, and had removed his family to Lewisburg.

During the next year, he revisited most of the places where he had been the previous year, and extended his labors still farther south, and by the fall of 1847 had seventeen assistants.

A colporteur convention was held in Lewisburg, that gave a new impulse to the work. The facts brought out at that convention in relation to the moral wants of thousands among our mountains, had a marvellous effect in waking up the good people of that region to their duty, and liberal contributions were made.

During the year 1848 he explored South-western Virginia and most of the valley. Many places visited that year were well supplied with a faithful ministry, and all the appliances of moral and religious training; others were deplorably destitute. By the close of the year he had twenty-seven colporteurs employed.

In the spring of 1849, he visited Richmond and some other parts of Eastern Virginia, but found it hard to wake up any interest in the work, as there was but one man then laboring in all that region. But good men were soon secured, and at the close of the year thirty-seven were at work.

During 1850 he visited most of the important towns in Eastern Virginia, and revisited many places in the west, and he had forty-one collaborators employed. His head-quarters were then at Lynchburg.

Before the year 1851 closed fifty men were at work, and much interest was awakened all over the state. Money was cheerfully given, and colporteurs wanted in every county. In 1852 the laborers had increased to sixty; it was supposed we had reached our highest limit, and that the demand for our books would cease. But it was soon found we had only prepared the way for a larger supply of Tract Society books, and for all other kinds of good books; and some bookstores were opened to supply the demand.

On the 10th of November, 1852, a colporteur convention was held in Richmond, Virginia, that lasted five days. The facts brought out in relation to the wants of the country by delegates from seven states, and the adaptation of colportage to meet those wants, awoke an interest in behalf of this cause, as well as every other mode of human evangelization, that is still felt in this city. At the close of the meeting, \$2,500 was contributed in aid of the Society, and nearly the same has been given annually ever since. At that time North Carolina, where but little had been previously done, was added to this agency; and from that to the present time, the work has been advancing in the most encouraging manner in that state.

In 1853 our work increased more than in any previous year. The

whole number of colporteurs was sixty-four, but a large number were students, who only labored during their vacation. At the close of the year we had eight men at work in North Carolina, some of whom are still at work, and among the most efficient men in the service of the Society. The destitutions in that state were found greater than in Virginia.

During the year 1854, we had on our colporteur list for Virginia, fifty-seven men. Although seven less in number than the previous year, we did more work, as the laborers were mostly permanent, and included but few students for short terms. The number in North Carolina was increased to twenty-four, and the work became very encouraging, and has continued so.

During the same year South Carolina was added to this field, and the number of colporteurs in that state doubled. In the winter of 1855 a colporteur convention was held in Charleston, which awakened much interest. At the close of it near \$5,000 were contributed in that city to aid the work, and Mr. E. L. Kerrison, a retired merchant of that city, volunteered his personal services, besides paying the salary of a colporteur. He took charge of that state, Georgia, and Florida as superintendent, and has continued the work successfully ever since. The little mustard-seed planted in North-western Virginia had by this time extended its branches to five states of the Union.

In the year 1852 the Rev. J. T. Hargrave commenced his labors as general agent in Virginia, and labored more than a year with indefatigable zeal. In the fall of 1853, the Rev. S. R. Slack entered the field as a general agent, and labored with great zeal and energy one year. In December of the same year, the Rev. M. T. Sumner entered on the work as a general agent, and has continued up to the present time with great success, and much is due to his fidelity for the present healthy state of the work. For the last year we have had also the coöperation of the Rev. G. W. Kennedy in Virginia, and Mr. W. J. W. Crowder in North Carolina, as general agents. In 1855 the number of men that labored in Virginia, the whole or part of the time, was fifty-nine, with thirty in North Carolina. In 1856 we had sixty men in Virginia, and forty-one in North Carolina. The receipts and expenses, as well as the good done, have been much in advance of any previous year.

On the 23d of October, 1856, a colporteur convention was held in Goldsboro', N. C., which continued four days. Among all the meetings of the kind I ever attended, I have never been more conscious of the presence of God than in that meeting. The absolute

necessity of the colporteur system was demonstrated to the satisfaction of all present. The good people of Goldsboro' gave near \$500 to aid the work, which in the circumstances was one of the most liberal contributions I have known to be made.

On the 28th of January, 1857, a convention was held in Augusta, Georgia. Twenty colporteurs from Georgia and South Carolina, and one from North Carolina, were present. The convention was in session from Wednesday evening till Saturday night. Much valuable information in relation to the wants of that vast field was brought to light, and a new impulse given to the work. On the Sabbath most of the churches were occupied by agents of the Society, and collections given amounting to \$1,800. At Columbia, S. C., I spent four days. Addressed the Baptist and Presbyterian churches on the Sabbath, and the theological students on Monday, and we expect some of them to engage as colporteurs. Liberal collections were made in all the churches. I spent three days at Savannah, and in connection with other brethren, addressed most of the churches on the Sabbath, and raised in that city over \$1,500. The prospects of the work are very encouraging in all that region.

We have now given the providential history of the rise and progress of Colportage in Virginia and North Carolina, a view of the moral destitution, and how far these wants have been supplied, and by what means and agencies. The amount of good done, of souls enlightened and saved, will appear in the day when the recording angel's book shall be opened, when the influence of all the books and tracts, prayers and conversations, shall be weighed in the balances of heaven. Then, and not till then will it be fully known. But enough comes to light incidentally to justify persevering effort, to double our diligence, and increase our force over all this vast field.

Hundreds of families have testified that the first religious visit ever made to them was by a colporteur of the American Tract Society; the first prayer ever offered in their houses was by a colporteur; the first religious book they ever owned was a gift from an agent of this Society. Thousands of children growing up in ignorance and sin, without any means of moral improvement, have been brought into Sabbath-schools and supplied with religious books to enlighten their minds and save their souls. Hundreds of poor widows have been supplied with these publications gratuitously, that were unable to buy a book to teach their children. Sabbath-breakers have been restrained, drunkards reformed, infidels converted, and backsliders reprov'd and brought back into the fold of Christ.

Could we even trace the influences thus set in motion but for half a century, and gather up all the misery prevented and good done, we should be astonished. Let us try to trace one or two cases :

A colporteur visited a poor cabin, gave a little book to a half-clad youth, who had only begun to read. It was the means of his conversion. Two years after he became a colporteur, and went from house to house for near four years, talking and praying, circulating books and tracts, by which many souls were led to Christ. He was then licensed to preach, and by his labors in the ministry a little over two years, two hundred souls were hopefully led to Christ. The little rill is now a river.

A good man in Western Virginia gave the Society \$150 to send out a colporteur to labor one year : during which more than one hundred souls professed Christ, and testify that either books or tracts, or his individual labors, were the means in the hands of God. He gathers up seventeen Sunday-schools where nothing of the kind had ever been before—neither church nor preaching. In six months a church is organized ; in a year or two more it is able to sustain a preacher half the time.

Another good man in the city of Richmond pays the salary of one man for a year. He visits a poor intemperate man ; labors hard for his salvation. In a little time that seemingly lost man professes religion, and soon after commences a Sabbath-school among his wicked neighbors. It is now a church ; the minister is there to break the bread of life.

These gifts and labors are raising monuments in heaven to praise redeeming love through all eternity.

During the year, 89 colporteurs, including superintendent and assistants, have been engaged in connection with this agency, of whom 48 labored in Virginia and 41 in North Carolina. The amount of time spent by them in the service was equal to the labor of one man for 525 months and 19 days. They visited 62,716 families, holding religious conversation or prayer with 31,965. They found 5,053 families who were destitute of all religious books except the Bible, 2,792 who were without the word of God, 3,808 who habitually neglected attending evangelical preaching. The number of public meetings addressed or prayer-meetings held by them was 2,754. Their sales amounted to \$15,617 89, and the value of the books and tracts gratuitously circulated by them to \$4,736 60.

In the year just closed, we have fallen a little short of the amount done the previous year. The failure of crops the past year, over a

large part of our field, has reduced our sales a little ; while the sickness of many in the past summer, and the loss of labor in the month of January by the unusual storm, has affected us still more.

Receipts for sales, ...	\$15,617 89
Donations at this office, ...	5,757 37
Messenger and Child's Paper, ...	119 41
	\$21,494 57

Expenditures for 525 months 19 days' labor, \$10,251 11	
Use of horse and buggy same time, ...	1,581 71
Travelling expenses, meals and lodging, horse-keeping, fares, tolls, and ferriage, ...	1,632 34
Freight and cartage, ...	773 08
Postage, ...	99 35
Stationery and exchange on uncurrent money, ...	221 21
Books and Tracts granted, ...	4,736 60
	\$19,295 40

Receipts over expenses, ...	\$2,199 17
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The following are the statistics of colportage in Virginia from November 1, 1844, to March 1, 1857: Time, 228 years, 4 months, 15 days; sales of books, \$90,758 42; grants, \$24,082 54; meetings held, 15,084; families destitute of religious books except the Bible, 24,034; families destitute of the Bible, 12,879; families supplied with the Bible, 9,442; Catholic families visited, 4,962; families neglecting evangelical preaching, 19,404; families conversed and prayed with, 146,693; whole number of families visited, 262,370: cost of the entire work, \$70,253 46. Donations and legacies during the same period, \$62,709 74.

In North Carolina, from September 1, 1852, to March 1, 1857: Time, 59 years, 1 month, 8 days; sales, \$26,017 53; grants, \$6,659 61; meetings held, 4,144; families destitute of religious books except the Bible, 13,137; families destitute of the Bible, 5,593; families supplied with the Bible, 4,546; Catholic families visited, 768; families neglecting evangelical preaching, 6,576; families conversed and prayed with, 47,988; families visited, 86,586: cost of the entire work, \$17,438 06. Donations and legacies during the same period, \$7,387 87.

We have now a good force of tried men on this field, and hope to push on the work with renewed zeal the present year.

Although our work has been a fraction less in the amount of labor

performed, yet the amount of manifest good done is greater than in any previous year. More souls have been reported as led to Christ, more children gathered into Sabbath-schools, more persons induced to attend church, than in any previous year. Our force is now almost entirely occupying the most destitute portions of the two states.

FROM REV. M. T. SUMNER, GENERAL AGENT IN
VIRGINIA.

For the last nine months I have travelled thousands of miles, and been constantly engaged in the prosecution of my duties. Few occurrences have transpired to embarrass my operations. On the contrary, I have often been taken by the hand, and received the word of encouragement that has strengthened my heart and spurred me on in my arduous work. And more, so frequently have I seen the fruits of the Society's labors for good, that my soul has rejoiced in God. Eternity alone will reveal the extent of heaven's blessings upon the publications of the American Tract Society, and the personal efforts of its faithful band of colporteurs, as they have prayerfully pointed the ignorant and friendless family to the Redeemer of sinners as the only hope of a ruined race.

This field has in part been well cultivated, as the more general report of the superintendent will show, and nowhere perhaps have the Committee been able to see greater and happier results of their efforts to evangelize the masses than in Virginia. We trust those efforts will not be abated till every county is supplied with a religious literature, and every household possesses a copy of God's word.

A portion of my time has been spent in the District of Columbia; and for the last five weeks, I have been in the state of Georgia. In January a Colporteur Convention was held in the city of Augusta, attended by some twenty colporteurs and the general agents from Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia, besides one of the secretaries from New York. The influence of this Convention has been felt throughout the state, and between four and five thousand dollars have been already secured in donations, besides pledges to the amount of several hundreds. There is a strong prospect that our colporteur force in this state will soon be greatly increased.

I visited in company with the general agent of Georgia, at the request of the Committee, several prominent points, Augusta, Savannah, Madison, Columbus, etc., where we were well received, and many were the friends of the Society we met. Their contributions

were liberal, and their adherence to the Society whose system of colportage is doing so much for their poor and uncared for, was given in a manner that secured a pledge of future sympathy and coöperation.

During the time I have been employed the past year, I have collected in cash \$3,110 88; besides \$15 50 for the American Messenger, \$12 13 for The Child's Paper, and pledges to the amount of some \$500, to be paid during the coming year.

We have much reason to be thankful, and praise God. May nothing occur to check in the slightest degree the onward course of usefulness promised to this system of evangelical labor. The friends everywhere have reason to increase their efforts, and take courage. God is working in these publications, and his seal of approbation is upon the issues and labors of the Society. "The entrance of thy word giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."

FROM REV. G. W. KENNEDY, GENERAL AGENT
IN VIRGINIA.

Praised be the Lord, who has led me on through the toil and dangers of the year in health and safety. In addition to the presentation of the claims of the Society, I have made it an object to preach the gospel as clearly and as pointedly as I could, and God in his infinite mercy has been pleased to bless the effort. As many as fourteen were awakened to inquire for the great salvation under one sermon, almost all of whom subsequently obtained hope in the Lord Jesus. In two churches revivals of religion commenced during my visit.

I have preached and presented the claims of the Society as often as eight times a week, in as many places, in some of which the voice of an agent of your Society was never heard before. My labors have been confined chiefly to the valley of Virginia and the District of Columbia, in which there is a large element of the German population. Enough colporteur work has been done in most of the counties in my field to commend it to the people. Your publications are almost universally approved by Christians of all evangelical denominations. The general impression however is, that your Society is sending out among the masses the leaven of the gospel that is working its way through the whole lump.

I have collected and remitted in cash \$1,625 36; for Messenger and Child's Paper, \$18 20; together with \$115 subscribed on my book that has been sent directly to the Society through other hands: making in all, \$1,740 36. I have circulated nearly 1,000 of the "Re-

port of Colportage in Virginia and North Carolina," besides many other documents and tracts. The inquiry has frequently been made, "Where can I get tracts *for distribution*?" I have supplied all such as far as I could. Two old gentlemen who have retired from business, employ almost all their time in distributing tracts, and in personal conversation on the subject of religion. They are indeed voluntary colporteurs. They are doing much good. It is my business and pleasure to keep them well supplied with ammunition.

FROM MR. J. W. CROWDER, GENERAL AGENT IN
NORTH CAROLINA.

Another colportage year, with its blessings, toils, and afflictions, is past. Through God's goodness, the kindness of friends, and the success met with, I find much to fill my soul with devout praises to the Lord, and to stimulate me to increased effort in His strength, in this work of self-denial, faith, and love, until all the Lord's poor, each family and individual in our state, shall own a printed gospel message, and welcome the voice of prayer in their houses by the humble colporteur.

In my more extensive travels as agent the past year, I have been impressed more than ever with the importance and results of this colportage work, by the voluntary united effort of Christians of every denomination, as a help to God's ministry, and the other agencies, in the salvation of perishing souls. Although I find a great number of elegant churches, able ministers, and pious, intelligent people, yet in passing through various sections I find no church for six or eight miles; and several churches are without pastors. In many families there are no religious books or papers, and but few in some whole neighborhoods; and no Sunday-schools in some entire counties, as I was told. The Sabbath, with many church-members and adult persons, is a day of visiting and feasting; and with the more wicked and younger, a day of amusement and intemperance. In many such sections, our colporteurs have visited and prayed with thousands of families; some had been members of the church for years, who never had a religious visit or prayer before; and in hundreds of houses these pious, praying men have left the first page that was ever there about Jesus.

Thus we are installing in every household a pastor in the form of a religious book by Baxter, Doddridge, Summerfield, Bishop McIlvaine, and others, which are being blessed of God to the quickening

of Christians to duty in private and family prayer, social prayer-meetings, the formation of Sabbath-schools, and in the conversion of souls; building churches, and bringing out men to be pastors of whatever denomination they may choose—this work having nothing to do in teaching and deciding the denominational views and relations of any one.

Passing through — county last summer, I stopped at a log cabin, and proposed to the parents to talk a little with their family. Soon all were in, the oldest child being fifteen years of age, and four younger. After talking and praying, the first time the children ever heard such exercises in a family, I asked if they had some religious books. "O yes," replied the father, and brought them to me, saying, "Now I will tell you how I got the first ones. A colporteur with books met me in another county and wanted to sell me some, but I told him I had no money. After talking to me about my soul and the souls of my family, he gave me a book for each of my children, and they are the first we ever owned. I have read them all through to the children, and the two eldest are nearly through the Tract Primer; and three of my neighbors have read them through, the first religious books they ever read, except one who had read the Pilgrim's Progress. And we have all bought a good family Bible, and are now reading that, and we go to preaching once a month, which is about six miles off, and have most of the logs cut to build us a meeting-house to have preaching in next year."

In another county, I stopped with a gentleman who told me that two years ago one of our colporteurs made the first religious visit to his house he ever had, and although he was then one of the most bigoted and fatal errorists, yet the kindness of the colporteur influenced him to take and read a tract—"Come to Jesus"—which showed him his heart, all full of sin, in a manner he never saw it before; and that he found no rest until he found it by faith in Jesus. After this, he formed a Sabbath-school of twenty-seven poor ignorant children, which was the only one within fourteen miles of him, and there was no regular preaching nearer than eight miles.

Four years ago, as I was thoroughly visiting a section, I was told of a secluded family living in a swamp. To reach it, I had to walk half a mile on poles. As I drew near the miserable log hut, they discovered me and showed great restlessness. And as I laid down my big saddle-bags, all present showed increased uneasiness, which I quieted as soon as possible by kind words, then took a seat on one of their stools. I found the parents and nine children in poverty,

filth, and wickedness, and ignorant to a degree most shocking. Only one of the children could remember ever seeing a book before, and not one ever heard a sermon or prayer before. After giving the Primer and other books, and instructing them an hour, with some difficulty I got the father to consent for some one to come and teach them twice a month. I then asked him why he had never sent his children to the public school, to which he replied, "Why, sir, do you reckon I have no better sense than to send my children to that house, built for a *trap* to catch them in to have them bound out from me?" I explained, but to no seeming good effect.

When I started, two of the children asked me to come again; and John, fourteen years old, walked with me to my horse; and as we shook hands, he looked at me with big tears in his eyes and said, "Mr. C——, I want you to let me go and live with you." I told him to return home then, and be dutiful and industrious, and God would provide for him. A few days after, I told this case to a rich man who became deeply interested in the boy, and in a few months he succeeded in getting him, and has kept him at a fine school, so that he now has a good education. By reading "The Anxious Inquirer," which I gave him, he was led to Christ; and he now has four copies of this book loaned to his associates in a weekly prayer-meeting which he aids in conducting, two of whom give evidence of conversion. His parents now attend church; also the other children, most of whom have gone to Sabbath-school and common-school until they can read, and now have a decent appearance. The father has given up ardent spirits, by which he used to be intoxicated almost constantly. I have given this family more than five dollars' worth of books, but for the last year they have bought several from me, besides others from bookstores.

In one day I visited eight families, five of whom had not been to church in two years, and had no religious books at all. There were several grown children among them who had scarcely enjoyed any of the advantages of religion or education, and seemed almost entirely indifferent to them, their fathers being drunkards, and reckless to such things. After spending much time in their humble cabins, talking kindly to each one, and interesting them in books by explaining the pictures of Cain killing Abel, Christ hanging on the cross, etc., they all consented to go to a Sunday-school which I soon formed, of more than fifty scholars, with faithful teachers, where no school had ever existed before. At one of these Sabbath-schools, in a dark region, there has been a gracious revival recently, and the minister

reports thirteen converts, most of whom are connected with the school.

A tract, "The Russian Tailor," which I gave a good man a few months ago, was the instrument in the awakening and conversion of his wife and a neighbor's son, and the forming of a weekly prayer-meeting, in which Christians of different denominations are united. *It is well known to God whose donation printed that tract*, the good influence of which will deepen and widen through time, and in eternity be for a reward to the donor. Every dollar given to this Society enables it to print and give away 75 copies of this tract, or an equal amount—1,500 tract pages—of any other of its list of 2,000 different publications. How much we can now do for God and immortal souls with a little of what God has loaned to us as his stewards.

While trying to perform my duties as agent, I am delighted in passing along, also to do the work of a colporteur, by going into the houses of the poor in the "highways and hedges," and there reach the hand of kindness to them, sit with them on their stools, and together talk about Jesus and his gospel, which is to be preached to the poor; then supply them with books, instruct, and pray with them. In families that could not spell, I taught thirteen persons in one quarter the alphabet in part, and among them were three parents, all of whom promised to continue learning. In some of the cases I got persons to visit and instruct them. In addition to what I saw in some of these counties, several intelligent and responsible persons gave me facts of their own knowledge, showing a degree of ignorance, destitution, superstition, and belief in witchcraft of a highly startling character to the Christian and patriot. A physician of high standing and extensive acquaintance told me that he had good reason to believe that nearly half of the lower class in his county were in this condition. A prominent clergyman also informed me that he spent a night with a magistrate that had no religious book except a small copy of the New Testament, which had never been read at all, and thought it was a book which all magistrates were furnished with simply to swear people upon. Most of these counties have but few Sabbath-schools, some having but two or three, and I was told that two of the counties had not even as many.

These facts, and many others we could give, illustrate the objects and results of this work which is being done in over fifty counties in our state. Such blessed effects produced, with the liberal donations to support the cause by Christians and philanthropists of various denominations and classes, and the prayers of God's people,

encourage me to press onward in this arduous, though delightful work.

During the year, I visited 1,804 families, and prayed with 1,388 : of these I found 169 neglecting church, 81 destitute of the Bible, 217 without any religious books except the Bible ; held 64 religious or prayer meetings, aided in forming 27 Sabbath-schools, and distributed over 489,000 pages of printed truth, nearly half of which I gave to the poor. Although much detained from my work by family affliction, yet my collection of funds for the cause exceeds that of last year by \$614 25.

FROM REPORTS OF COLPORTEURS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

REPORT OF REV. A. F. H.—I have labored in W—— county nine months, employing all the time in circulating books and tracts, conversing, praying, and preaching. True, I might have sold more books had I neglected the poor, and gone to those able to purchase : but to the *poor* I was sent ; and in visiting the destitute and prejudiced, the ignorant, the wicked, and the intemperate, I always felt that I was in the discharge of my duty ; while a book or tract left with them may be a pledge of my love for their souls, and seal the solemn truths uttered.

I have thoroughly canvassed this county, with the exception of N—— district and the fork of the river. My acquaintance is extensive as to its moral condition. Common-school education is very defective. Many grown people cannot read, and are bringing up their children with no better advantages than they possessed in their own youthful days. Grog-shops are scattered everywhere, while Sabbath-schools flourish only in G—— and E——, the principal villages in the county. Of 1,260 families visited, 259 had *no Bible*, 535 had no religious book but the Bible and hymn-book, and 170 habitually neglect church. I granted in books and tracts \$164 01. This destitution is no imaginary statement ; my statistics were faithfully taken, as many of my friends and brethren who accompanied me at different times to various places can testify. Certainly no county in the state can present a greater contrast than W—— ; so much wealth and poverty, so much piety and intelligence in the midst of wickedness and ignorance.

I found a very poor family, the mother blind and sick. She and her children were clothed in rags, and want stared them in the face. She had often felt the gnawings of hunger, and now, through infirmity, she could not work nor go to church. There was not a book in the house, and none of the family could read ; nor had they heard a prayer or sermon in many years. I conversed plainly with the poor woman, and told the story of the Cross ; and as I prayed with her, the Spirit touched her heart ; she felt she was lost without the Saviour. She became alarmed and distressed. I left her bathed in tears.

At another house, where I was told I would meet with opposition if not insult, I found several aged women trembling over the grave. The longest part of their journey was behind them ; and now old age had come, and death was waiting to seize them as his lawful prey. None of them had made any preparation for eternity. They had long ago forsaken the house of God, and family prayer was a thing unknown. They knew nothing about books. Here I presented the fulness of the gospel, and its power to save, and then advised, entreated, and invited them to Christ. I prayed, commending them to the God of all grace ; and although my

visit was something novel to them, yet from the big tears on their cheeks, and the heavy sigh breaking up from the great deeps of the heart, I hope I left an impression that will not soon be forgotten.

I called at the house of another poor family. They had neither chairs nor beds; no box or trunk for clothing. The mother had once been a member of the church, but through frequent removals she had lost her membership. They had a Bible, but no one could read. I proposed to read, if the Bible was brought out. The mother took down a bag that hung on the wall, and after displacing its contents, she took a Bible carefully wrapped in paper therefrom. After prayers, she again wrapped it up, and placed it in its hiding-place, perhaps to remain there with its sacred truths and precious promises until some one else shall call in and ask for it.

One good brother bought several dollars' worth of books. He accompanied me two days through his neighborhood, and was well pleased with our system of colportage. He thought these were the best books ever brought into his county. He afterwards told me that his family had quit work, and gone to reading; that he could hardly get them to milk the cows, or cook enough to eat. This brother had had several discussions with the Universalist preacher, and had worried him severely. As he is a prominent man, I gave him two copies of "Universalism not of God," desiring him to read, and then lend them to his neighbors, for I knew he could take liberties that I could not dare to use.

Called on a family and stated the object of my visit. The mother sat while five children stood around her. All seemed affrighted by the unexpected interview. I presented my books, but sold none. After conversing a while on religious subjects I proposed prayer; the mother said, "What?" Suppose, I said, we pray before parting? "*Do what?*" I said I generally prayed with families when I visited them, and now would pray with her, if she did not object. She said, "*Have prayer with me?*" I sat a while doubtful of the course I ought to pursue. At length I concluded it was best to pray, and said so; then, as I knelt and prayed, the mother sat looking me full in the face, and the children stood and looked on.

When I entered another house the children ran under a bed. At other places the children ran to meet me, begging for books. At one house the family declined seeing me, because they had company; while at others, the good people sent for their neighbors to come and hear me pray and talk; and sometimes an entire family would follow me to the next house to join in prayer again, and in one instance a family followed me to four different places before they left.

I frequently saw a very poor man, hard of hearing, and a member of the church, traversing the streets with a few peaches, trying to sell them to buy some necessities for his wife and children. He told me he was very poor, and had to use all the industry and economy he could to provide for his family. He lives in a poor neighborhood and on poor land. He had neither a Bible nor any other religious books except a small Testament and a hymn-book. He wanted a Bible, etc., but could not afford to buy them. I granted him one, with some tracts and small volumes. He expressed many thanks to the Society that so kindly supplies the destitute with good books. Afterwards he was present at the Colporteur Convention in G——, and while brother A—— spoke of the goodness of God in prompting men to send the gospel to the poor, his heart seemed to melt. He wept much, and when the collection was taken up, he gave fifty cents, to send books to other poor families who like himself could not afford to buy when the colporteur called to see them.

REPORT OF MR. W. W. T.—I find that a considerable change has taken place since I was in this settlement last August. Then I had to select such books as I

thought the people needed most. *Now* they have read them with some care, and can tell much of their contents, and select books for themselves. Prominent men assert that more reading has been done within the last three months, than had been done in as many years before. The Sunday-schools I organized last fall are doing well, and all the superintendents and teachers send sincere thanks to the Society for the donations it authorized me to make them. I effect good sales with much more ease, in those neighborhoods which I visited months ago, than I could do then.

Visited a village containing 25 families. Here I found great destitution. Some of the men and women had not heard a sermon for years, except at a camp-meeting. I reached this place just at dusk, and learning that a pious old gentleman lived there, I sought his house, where I was kindly treated, and next morning he went with me over the place. It rained very hard, and the mud was quite deep, but we persevered until every household was visited, and exhorted and prayed with; and from every house the children followed us, so that by the time we finished, all the juvenile population of the place was about us. Then the old father preached and talked, as he had done all the while. Some we left shedding tears, some looking as sad as if they did not expect to live another day, while others made light of his entreaties and warnings; yet I trust there were lasting impressions made that day. Many of these people could not read; about one third were destitute of the Bible. Some of these I supplied, but I had not enough for all.

At a gentleman's house where I lodged on one of the coldest nights this winter, about 10 o'clock in the evening we were startled by hearing a woman's voice at the outer door: on opening it, there stood a woman in the last stage of consumption, with a sick child in her arms; she was brought in, and told us her sad story. Her husband had spent the day at the grog-shop, while she was at home without fuel. She had with her child resorted to her bed to keep from freezing, when he returned home intoxicated, and drove her with her child from the house. She was compelled to seek shelter somewhere, or freeze. Next morning she left for her miserable home. I repaired thither, hoping to prevail on her husband to do better; but he saw me coming, and fled like a wild man. I found his wife in tears, and destitute of all worldly comforts. I prayed with her, and gave her all the spiritual encouragement I could, for she is evidently a Christian; and granted her a Bible, the Saints' Rest, and some tracts, as she had no books, and gave her a dollar to buy some food for herself and child. She wept very much, praying for God's blessing to rest on my labor of mercy. Such things as starvation and deadly destitution exist in the midst of Christians, and they do not know it. May the Lord help his people to do their duty. Were it necessary, I could detail twenty cases just as deplorable as the one already given.

I got into one neighborhood where the people care but little for books. They stop manual labor on the Sabbath, but they spend the sacred hours at the distilleries, drinking, gaming, and fighting, and when religious services are going on, disturb the worshippers; but I hope I shall be enabled to start a Sabbath-school among these people, as two young men have promised to assist in carrying it on. Some of the people told me they had not been in a church for five years, and others not for ten, yet there are places of worship almost in sight. Preaching, however, is very irregular. There are twenty five churches in the county, and some eight or ten "classes" that have no place for public worship; yet of the whole, only three have service every Sabbath, some once a month, some once in a fortnight, and others not oftener than once or twice a year.

I organized four Sabbath-schools last fall, but the severity of the winter, and the bad condition of the houses prevented their being kept up for some months past; I think we shall be able to reopen them very soon. Two of them, having

from fifty to sixty pupils each, are located in places where there never were any before. There would be no difficulty in opening Sabbath-schools all over this county, could teachers be found capable of carrying them on, who would be willing to do so; and I have the promise of some, and perhaps our prayers may be heard and enough found to do this great and useful work. Revisited the poor family mentioned in the former part of this report; and I thank God that things are changed for the better with them. The poor man was at work, and assures me that he will not drink any more, and that he has been reading the Bible I left. He paid me for it and the other books. May the Lord bless these books, both to him and his wife. He says he has not been unkind to her since that night.

I have been on this field over six months; have distributed 1,200 books, besides 12,000 pages of tracts; found 50 or more families destitute of the Bible, 40 of whom I supplied, and about 200 families destitute of other religious books, and nearly as many more that had nothing but a small Testament or Sunday-school book; but all such as had any books at all, I left out of my report. Yet I have explored but one-third of the county, and I have reason to consider it the least destitute and most intelligent part of it. I hope I may find I was mistaken.

I meet with little opposition to my work. I called to spend the night with a gentleman who was said to be opposed to my efforts. He said I could stay, but he did not know me or my business. After supper I saw *four* children trying to read from two pieces of a wornout spelling-book. There was not a whole book in the house. The children could spell and read a little. I took a Tract Primer from my pocket, and gave it to a little girl. This attracts the children much. Then I asked the old lady for a Bible, telling her I liked to read a chapter before retiring to rest, but she said she had none. I asked the man if he belonged to the church. He said, "Yes," and apologized for having no Bible. I took the Social Hymn-book from my pocket, and presented it to the old lady. She thanked me much for it, and commenced reading it, and I do not think she slept until she had read it through. I asked the good brother if he had evening service. He said no, but if I wished, he had no objection. So we all joined in prayer. Next morning I asked for my bill: he said he charged me nothing; that the books I had given his wife and child were worth more than my lodging, particularly to them, as they were just what were needed, and he would be glad if I had more as good. Then I opened my trunk, saying, "I can supply you with as many as you want." He looked frightened, but stood his ground. His wife and children soon got at the trunk, and took out about \$8 worth of books. The good old brother paid for them. After explaining my business and the object of the Society, he acknowledged that it was all right and good, thanked me for my visit, and kindly invited me to repeat it. And thus I find many men who are prejudiced against this work for lack of correct information about it; for such, let us pray that the Lord may soften their hearts and enlighten their minds.

REPORT OF REV. J. F. M.—I have spent something over three years in the Society's service; and now, taking a general view of the work from experience, I confess I see painfully the need for it by the wretched destitution prevailing almost everywhere I have travelled for hundreds of miles around. I have placed one or more of the tract volumes in the hands of over fifty thousand people, or more than six thousand families; and they are now awakening the slumbering powers of the souls in this benighted region.

Truly by the grace of God light has sprung up. When I first visited my present field three years ago, I found in a population of nearly 7,000 there were but two or three ordinarily good schools, and four or five public schools, kept open sixty

days in the year, or just long enough to exhaust the funds of the district. The result of this system naturally was, that not one-third of the youth were taught to read; and I do not believe that one-fifth of the people can write, and not one in every hundred understands the principles of grammar. How could it be otherwise under such tuition, and without proper text-books? In my second year I revisited the schools, and found the tract volumes extensively used for this purpose; but as no two children had the same volume to read from, it must have been difficult for the teachers to hear every one read a lesson every day. One had Pilgrim's Progress; another had Baxter; another, the Method of Grace; another, Pike's Persuasives; another, the Afflicted Man's Companion; while others had various juvenile works better adapted to beginners.

There are but six small churches in the county, and in two of them only there is preaching every Sabbath. There are only two liberally educated preachers, and they have very small congregations on account of the popular prejudice against education; and thus the mass of the people, when they do attend church, are necessarily served by either a very illiterate, inefficient ministry, or a very immoral one. Last Sabbath one of these preachers preached near my house. He arrived in his cart on his way to mill, stopped and preached, and then went on his way to transact the business he had on hand. Two deacons of his church sat by the roadside shaving noses, while many of the members attended to secular affairs. But despite these obstacles, I have succeeded in keeping up large and flourishing Sabbath-schools, and now five good day-schools are in operation, and I have succeeded in getting at least twelve young men into college, and under sound evangelical influence. Some of them, although wealthy, could not read well when they entered the preparatory department. Most of these young men have made a profession of religion, and exert a highly beneficial influence over their respective families and friends. In the midst of the destitution of education and religious advantages in the county, there are not a few persons who would do honor to any country, possessing many virtues and deep piety, and doing all in their power to advance the cause of Christ and do good to their neighbors. But many of the latter class cannot believe, because they do not personally see the extent of the ignorance and destitution around them. An intelligent gentleman said to me a few days ago, that he once thought some of the colporteurs exaggerated facts; but now, said he, "I am convinced that not one of them has yet fully described the condition of the majority of our people—their profound ignorance and want of culture."

Your volumes have done much good in this region, where so much is yet to be done. I could mention many cases of conversion through their agency. I gave the "Saints' Rest" to a poor widow. She reads it daily, and says it is her greatest earthly comfort. Nevins' "Practical Thoughts" has been the instrument of converting and strengthening one hundred souls this colporteur year. An able minister, the presiding elder in this district, after reading Nevins, said to me, "Brother, this is a good book; circulate it;" then turning to many preachers and officials in his church, he said, "The American Tract Society is doing North Carolina more good than any other agency." I could fill a large volume with interesting facts I almost every day meet with among the remote dwellings, unknown almost to all but the colporteur who treads these raccoon paths alone, trudging through swamps and woods—yet not *alone*; Jesus, who knows every motive and every action, is with him: and I would say to those who cannot endure to hear the truth regarding their neglected brethren, as Daniel said to Nebuchadnezzar, "Break off thy sin by righteousness, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity." No man of piety could follow me a day without saying, "Truly this work is of God."

I have labored much for the colored people, and have had free access to them at all times. I do not know a surer way to the heart of the master than by doing good to his servants, if he be a man of the right stamp.

COLPORTEUR CONVENTION

AT GOLDSBORO', N. C.

This Convention was attended by Rev. Mr. Eastman, Secretary, Mr. Cross, Superintendent, the General Agents in Virginia and North Carolina, the clergymen of Goldsborough, and Rev. Mr. Atkinson of Raleigh, and colporteurs chiefly from North Carolina.

The Convention was opened on Thursday evening, October 23, by a sermon from Rev. Mr. Atkinson on John 3:16, "God so loved the world," etc., which was delivered with unusual power and unction. The sessions were continued morning and afternoon on Friday, Saturday, and Monday; the churches in Goldsboro' and vicinity were addressed on the Sabbath; and public meetings were held every evening, when the Secretary, the pastors, general agents, and colporteurs made addresses and appeals which were listened to with the deepest interest.

A part of each session, the two first days, was devoted to narratives by the members of the Convention of their own personal history and religious training, the means by which they were led to Christ, and the providence of God which brought them into their present work.

Of nine of the number, both of the parents were pious; seven others had pious mothers; two had pious fathers; two were reared in the society of Friends, and one was an orphan. All had early religious, or moral training. Fourteen embraced Christ before they were twenty years old, and all the rest except one before they were twenty-five. Eight of the number received their first permanent religious impressions from books; ten from the public preaching of the word, and three from personal Christian effort.

In addition to these interesting narratives, each colporteur gave a full description of his field, the wants of the people, the manner of his doing the work, and the success of his labors. A part of each session was devoted to discussing the nature and principles of the Society, the providential history of colportage in our country, especially in Virginia and North Carolina, and instructions as to the best manner of doing and reporting the work.

Would to God that all the sceptics in the land could have heard these narratives, and seen by what a diversity of means God brings

men to himself, and produces in them a unity of feeling and purpose. Although connected with seven denominations of Christians, and each gave his history and experience with great freedom, few could have discovered that they were not all of one ecclesiastical connection. All were of one heart in the blessed work before them—another beautiful illustration of Protestant unity. Minor differences were forgotten. The salvation of souls by the blood of Christ and the renewing power of the Holy Ghost, seemed to be the great leading desire of all.

The descriptions of ignorance, sin, and prejudice, in many places, as given by these brethren, it was painful to hear in this Christian land. Multitudes of families are living without any religious instruction, or schools of any kind, and seldom or never enter the house of God, or hear a sermon. The large audience present were often bathed in tears at these recitals.

Sometimes their sorrow would be turned to joy to hear that a Tract Primer had been the means of teaching some unlettered man to read, who was now instructing his own and his neighbors' children to read God's word in a Sunday-school. In some cases the colporteur taught part of the alphabet before he left the cabin and gave the book. In future visits he would sell some, if they had means to buy, and would get up a Sunday-school. The preacher and church soon follow, ignorance and open sin begin to disappear, neat cabins take the place of old dilapidated ones, and cultivated gardens and fields soon show the change. The numerous facts related by the colporteurs of good done, especially to the destitute, while all, high and low, bond and free, were reached and blessed by this simple agency, so cheered the good people of Goldsboro', that a noble and generous contribution to aid the colporteur work was given with a cheerfulness and liberality seldom equalled in our country.

We have never before seen the unsectarian character of this Society so strikingly exhibited. It finds its way through prejudices such as exist only in the midst of great ignorance, distilling the love of Christ, and teaching men to love one another; doing good to all, and injury to none.

Numerous and powerful revivals of religion have been enjoyed in places where the colporteurs have labored, which have been, in part at least, connected with their books and faithful toils. Many who seldom entered the house of God, have been drawn to it by reading a book or tract, and many date their first awakening to this instrumentality.

We have never before been so deeply impressed with the necessity of this institution as an auxiliary to the living ministry: doing

an outside work ; preparing the ignorant for the reception of a preached gospel ; going into their houses, and instructing them as a pious mother would her children, and then handing them over to the minister, to be led to Christ, and brought into his church. It brings out the moral statistics of our great country, shows where missionary labor is needed, and in many places makes the first gospel application ; having access to all classes, and applying the heaven-born remedy, pure evangelical truth. It educates the ignorant, warns the drunkard, rebukes the Sabbath-breaker and profane swearer, guides inquirers to Christ, comforts the sorrowful, employs the lay talent in the church, increases the number of ministers, and aids all the institutions of learning and benevolence. All this was abundantly proved in the statements made in this Convention.

The deep interest, entire consecration, and striking adaptation of each man to the work, was a very interesting feature of our Convention. If we had choice of all the men in the state of North Carolina, we could scarcely have selected men better adapted to the fields they occupy. Surely the hand of God is in the work, or we could never get men so well adapted to the service for so small a compensation. Leaving their families and homes, and cheerfully enduring their hardships and toils, each could say, "The love of Christ constraineth us."

We could not help thinking, that if the many worthy Christians of this land had heard these details of misery and sin among the poor, and of the labors and toils and success of these colporteurs, hundreds would have said, I will pay the salary of one of them ; and some one or more would have conceived the magnificent idea, I will pay the salary of *twenty* of these men year by year. How would such an act honor Christ, elevate thousands of the poor by educating the rising race, and erect monuments enduring as eternity in the hearts of ignorant dying souls.

Five or ten thousand dollars each year, spent in paying men of faith and prayer to labor on such a field, would set on foot a train of influences deepening and widening as time rolls on, till millions would be saved by their means. Are there not some who are ready to do this ? Christian men and women whom God has blessed with means, pray over this matter. We need this day one thousand colporteurs in our country. North, south, east, and west multitudes are hastening to the judgment unwarned, with no devoted minister of Christ to break to them the bread of eternal life. Will you not aid us by colporteurs and books thus to spread truth over all the land, and pray that it may be blessed by the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven ?

CHARLESTON AGENCY.

SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND EASTERN FLORIDA.

SUPERINTENDENT AND GENERAL AGENTS—E. L. KERRISON, Superintendent; Rev. N. ALDRICH and Rev. H. SAFFORD, General Agents.

COLPORTEURS.—SOUTH CAROLINA. R. F. Babb, B. F. Berry, G. L. Brown, H. Crook, W. Davis, W. Douglass, W. H. Jones, D. H. Kennemur, T. P. Kirtion, I. Lawrence, E. H. Mellichamp, A. M. Noble, J. R. Proffitt, G. W. Rees, J. M. Runion, J. B. Sanders, J. Smith, R. W. Todd, E. J. Webb.

Students—W. L. Baird, I. N. Derrick, P. Derrick, B. Kreps.

GEORGIA. J. A. Baird, J. D. Boggs, T. Chaffin, R. A. Felton, G. W. Hammond, F. M. Haygood, J. J. Hyman, J. L. B. Jennings, L. Leach, A. C. Mason, W. McCarter, W. W. Odum, W. B. Richards, W. B. Robinson, W. K. Safford, A. M. Sheriff, F. O. Smith, A. K. Tribble, W. L. Tucker, W. R. Vanlandingham, J. B. Vaughn, W. J. Whitehead.

The Rev. N. ALDRICH, General Agent in South Carolina, says :

In this State, the work of the Society during the year has been prosecuted with diligence, and though we have no striking results to record, yet our labors have been accompanied with a reasonable share of success. The supervision of the South Carolina Branch Society has contributed greatly to the success and permanency of our operations, by giving a local character to the work and investing it with a degree of interest which under other circumstances would not have been felt.

Our corps of colporteurs is gradually on the increase. Twenty-five men, including theological students employed during their vacations, have been in commission for the year. We need twice that number, to supply the destitution in the state; but they must be men peculiarly adapted to the work; of sufficient *intelligence* to commend the work to the countenance and support of the educated and refined; of sufficient *humility* to make them welcome visitors in the homes of the illiterate and unpolished; of sufficient *prudence* to converse and even reprove without exciting the prejudices of those with whom they mingle; and above all, of such *ardent piety* as will produce the conviction that they are "men of God," whose occupation is more of a spiritual than a secular character. In a word, we need men who will feel that they are commissioned by heaven as well as by this Society, and who will so dignify their calling as not to be regarded in the light of mere book-pedlars. With such men in our employment, by the blessing of God we may look forward to the day when the light of divine truth will illumine every dwelling in the

state, and from every family altar the incense of grateful hearts and an acceptable sacrifice will be presented to the throne of "the Majesty on high."

The field of labor which the state presents is somewhat peculiar, both as to its local characteristics and its inhabitants. The districts nearest the seaboard, though by far the most fertile portion of the state, are intersected by swamps which are comparatively valueless, because of the impossibility of their being drained except at great expense. The cultivated portions of these districts embrace the plantations and winter residences of some of the most wealthy and intelligent of our citizens, while all along the borders of the swamps may be found the miserable log cabins of some of the most ignorant and degraded of our race. The moral and social habits of these people present a painful contrast to the upright deportment and the decent regard for religion manifested by their wealthy neighbors. Decency forbids that we should notice minutely their immoral practices; they "live as they list," insensible alike of their obligations to God and to their fellow-men. To them the Sabbath is as any other day; it imparts no hallowing influence, it brings them not into the sanctuary of God to be instructed in reference to their souls' eternal interests; it lifts not their thoughts above the things of this world, but dawns and closes, leaving them and their families in the depths of iniquity, without one chastened thought or serious impression.

In the districts of the interior, the plantations of the wealthy are along the water-courses, while the habitations of the poor and destitute are scattered through a ridge of thin pine land which extends through all these districts. The same aspect of things is presented to the eye of the beholder in the homes of these people, as among the poor upon the seaboard; wherever we turn, the marks of degradation are to be seen: comfortless homes, families having but few of the necessities of life, and children of all ages, for the most part deprived by their own parents of the school advantages furnished by the state, and growing up without the least religious instruction. In one of the districts, an effort was made by the "commissioners of free schools" to ascertain how many of the children of the poor in attendance upon the schools could repeat the "Lord's prayer" and the "ten commandments." We examined four of the reports furnished by the teachers, and found that out of 160 scholars only one-third could say the Lord's prayer, and one-fifth the ten commandments, and for this knowledge we were informed these scholars were indebted to their *teachers*. In a school of 40 scholars, only eight could

repeat the Lord's prayer, and these learned it after they had entered the school.

In the upper districts of the state, wealth is more equally distributed and intelligence more generally diffused ; still, in all these districts there is more or less of destitution and vice, particularly in the mountain sections and along the borders of the state.

Such is the character and condition of our field. The following questions will naturally arise : Why does this destitution exist ? Why are not churches built for the accommodation of the poor ; and why are not missionaries sent to them ? The truth is, there is no lack of churches, but there is a want of inclination on the part of these people to attend them ; they are conscious of their degradation, and consequently avoid all places where they are likely to be brought in contact with the better classes of society. Our missionaries too are as zealous and active as they can well be, but it would require more men than the various denominations can bring into the field to accomplish the work. God in his providence seems to have committed it into the hands of our colporteurs, and with a firm reliance upon the aid of the Holy Spirit, they are to be found in these destitute sections gladly enduring hardships as good soldiers of Christ, if by this means they may be made the honored instruments of bringing souls to him.

The success connected with the efforts of our colporteurs will satisfy the most sceptical that *the work is of God*. Wherever they have gone, a "door of access" has been opened to the hearts of the people, and good has been done. In the convention recently held in Augusta, Georgia, our hearts were made glad by the narration of facts connected with the work of the brethren in this and the adjoining states. As regards our own state, a brother laboring upon the seaboard, in referring to the destitution upon his field, testified also to the readiness of the people to receive his visits, and to listen to his instructions ; he had held among them a number of prayer-meetings, which had been well attended, and had distributed freely the tracts of the Society, which upon subsequent visits he found had been read ; the deportment of the people had convinced him that his labors among them were appreciated, and though he could not speak with confidence of the success which had attended his efforts, still he had reason to hope that they were not without the blessing of God.

Another brother organized a Sunday-school in a destitute neighborhood, which resulted in the conversion of eighteen persons, two-

thirds of whom dated their convictions from the instructions they received in that Sunday-school.

In a church previously distracted, a revival of religion took place in connection with the labors of a colporteur, which resulted in the conversion of twenty-five souls.

Besides these facts, many individual instances of conversion might be noticed. One of our colporteurs called at the house of a very wicked man: he did not see the man, but found his wife in the field hoeing cotton, and inquired of her if she desired any good books; she replied she would be glad to purchase, but had no money. The colporteur gave her James' "Anxious Inquirer," which she promised to read herself and get her husband to read. This gift resulted in the conversion of both of these persons.

This same colporteur visited a man seventy-five years of age, who at first refused his books, but he finally got him to accept the book entitled "Religion and Eternal Life." This old man assured him that this was the first religious visit he had ever received. On a subsequent visit he gave him the tract "Come to Jesus," and soon after found him rejoicing in Christ. This same tract, "Come to Jesus," given to a lady, became the means of her conviction; and another, entitled "It is I," resulted in her conversion.

A book which had been accidentally dropped by a colporteur upon the road, was found by a poor woman, and the perusal of it made her a sincere Christian.

A Temperance Manual which was given to a man who was keeping a "groggery," led to his abandonment of the traffic.

Facts like these might be multiplied, illustrative of the good effected in our state by this humble agency, but surely it is needless. The candid mind cannot but be convinced that God has set to this work the seal of his approval; and if it has met with the divine sanction, will not every Christian and philanthropist esteem it a privilege to facilitate its progress? The increase of laborers will naturally require additional means for their support. The amount raised for the year just closed is \$3,052, which barely defrays the expenses of the work. We shall need at least double this sum for the present year; and while we fervently pray for an increase of laborers for our field, we would also pray that the hearts of the benevolent and our brethren of the various denominations may be inclined towards the work, and that as they "have opportunity" and are blessed with means, they will aid us in its advancement. We gratefully acknowledge the very liberal contributions of some of our

wealthy citizens who are individually paying the original salary of a colporteur, \$150, and the aid furnished by those congregations pledged for the support of one or more of our colporteurs. May a like spirit be infused into the hearts of other Christian persons, and among other congregations. Then will the day be hastened when the Society will have accomplished its mission in the midst of us, and the dark and destitute portions of our state will become illumined by the rays of divine truth and the sanctifying influences of the Spirit.

In concluding this report, we would earnestly commend the work of colportage to the prayerful consideration of pious and devoted laymen of all evangelical denominations. Behold, brethren, a wide and promising field before you—a field white for the harvest, in which the “talents” intrusted to your care, with the injunction, “Occupy till I come,” may be employed to the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Say not that you are not called to this work: there is such a thing as a man’s being ignorant of his duty; and have you ever seriously inquired, “Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?” You may not be called to the work of the ministry, but surely the Master has not brought you into his vineyard to be inactive, and the great matter is to ascertain how you can best promote his glory. “As ye have opportunity, do good unto all men,” is a *divine* command; and as the term “opportunity” implies ability, it may be you are so circumstanced that engaging in this work may prove to be your opportunity for good. At any rate we entreat you to make this matter a subject of prayer, and when you pray endeavor to bring before your mind the destitute condition of hundreds of families in your own state and elsewhere, who are “perishing for lack of knowledge,” and who because of the inadequate number of men in the ministry cannot be reached by this instrumentality. It may be that the work of colportage will prove to be your sphere of duty; and though you may regard it as an humble and a self-denying work, still remember it has been blessed of God to the salvation of many souls, and may make you also the honored instrument in the salvation of many more who in the last great day will shine as stars in your crown of rejoicing.

The Rev. H. SAFFORD, General Agent in Georgia, says:

The twenty colporteurs connected with me during the year, performed labor equal to that of one man for ten years, nine months, and two days. The aggregate of their statistical reports is embodied elsewhere.

Donations have been received during the year to the amount of \$4,512 45, besides subscriptions to the amount of \$892. The large increase of contributions to the Tract Society in Georgia, above the contributions of any previous year, may be attributed in part to the diffusion of information relative to the objects for which the Society was formed ; in part to the steady course pursued by the Society to carry out the object of its formation ; and in part, and perhaps chiefly, to the influence of the Colporteur Convention recently held in the city of Augusta. That the convention was the means of exciting a very deep interest in the minds of many of her citizens, in behalf of the Tract cause, is very evident from the fact, that shortly after the close of its sessions they contributed to the funds of the Society more than \$1,800. And it is reasonable to suppose that a similar interest has been excited in various parts of South Carolina and Georgia by the reports of the proceedings of the convention, carried by its members to their respective fields of labor, and that thus its salutary influence will be felt to an indefinite extent. I take pleasure in saying that I was greatly assisted, in making collections in Augusta and Savannah, by the hearty and very efficient coöperation of brothers Aldrich of South Carolina, Cross and Sumner of Virginia, and that I had the pleasure of the company and assistance of brother Sumner in my visits to Liberty and Morgan counties, and the city of Columbus.

Last November I assisted in the organization of the Atlanta Tract Society. It was formed for the purpose of contributing towards the support of a colporteur in that city. Its members belong to the different evangelical denominations, and they have chosen as their agent and colporteur brother F. M. Haygood. During the detention of the trains at the railroad dépôts, he labors among the passengers, and devotes the rest of his time to family visitation in the city. His quarterly reports to that society, and the perusal of the 135 copies of the Messenger, and 85 copies of The Child's Paper, taken by its members, will be very likely to keep alive their interest in the good work in which they have embarked.

In my late visit to the city of Columbus, I was much gratified to find that our brother who makes that important point in his field the centre of his operations, had produced a very favorable impression by the prudent, diligent, and energetic prosecution of his colporteur labors. He has put into circulation on his field 200 copies of the American Messenger, and 800 of The Child's Paper. It is an interesting fact, that he has secured the efficient coöperation of a number of

ladies in systematic monthly tract distribution in the city and its suburbs.

The reports of the colporteurs laboring in Georgia furnish cheering evidence that they have not labored in vain. Numerous families found destitute of the Bible and other religious books, have been supplied; sinners have been hopefully converted, Sabbath-schools have been established, and churches organized, and the stated preaching of the gospel has been introduced into communities which previous to the visits of the colporteur were destitute of this unspeakable blessing. Such results are well calculated to stimulate us to renewed and untiring efforts "to diffuse a knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of sinners, and to promote the interests of vital godliness and sound morality by the circulation" of the Society's publications, till throughout the length and breadth of the land "the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

In the prosecution of his toilsome and often discouraging work, the agent of the Tract Society occasionally meets with very pleasant incidents. I will relate two of recent occurrence. As I was crossing one of the streets in a certain city, a gentleman accosted me, and after introducing himself and making some inquiries relative to the Tract cause, invited me to call at his office at a specified time. When I did so, he took my subscription-book and wrote, "A Friend, for the support of a colporteur, \$150;" and unsolicited gave me his obligation in writing to pay the same in equal quarterly instalments.

A few mornings since, a gentleman called at my office, and placed in my hands, as a donation to the Tract Society, from himself and his father, a check for \$200, towards the support of the colporteur enterprise in Georgia and South Carolina. They wished to contribute for the promotion of the cause of Christ, as God had prospered them in their business. These gentlemen made a donation to the Society of \$25 soon after the convention.

The great desideratum at present in Georgia, as respects colportage, is a large increase of well-qualified laborers. To accomplish this important object will, I trust, in reliance on divine aid, be my constant aim and effort.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

In SOUTH CAROLINA, 26 colporteurs labored 121 months and 25 days. Volumes sold, 21,145; granted, 5,466 volumes; in all worth

\$5,140 01. Meetings held, 388. Families destitute of religious books except the Bible, 1,102 ; families destitute of the Bible, 473 ; families neglecting preaching, 550 ; families conversed or prayed with, 4,377 ; and 13,110 visited.

In GEORGIA, 28 colporteurs labored 108 months and 21 days. Volumes sold, 20,260 ; granted, 5,720 volumes ; in all worth \$5,005 20. Meetings held, 678. Families destitute of religious books except the Bible, 1,610 ; families destitute of the Bible, 534 ; families neglecting preaching, 1,268 ; families conversed or prayed with, 7,172 ; and 14,732 visited.

FROM REPORTS OF COLPORTEURS.

REPORT OF MR. R. W. TODD.—During the past year, more general good has perhaps been done here in the tract cause, than in any one year since it has been my privilege to be engaged in this good work. Although there have been no special revivals of religion as the fruits of this work, yet it is evident there is a gradual progress. Many who have been opposed to the Tract Society, are now its warm advocates. As I had occasion to remark in our late convention, out of 34 ministers of the gospel, 33 now coöperate with me in this good work. I now meet with a warm reception among all classes of people. It is evident that the state of society here is very much improved ; so much so, that I now find but few families without the word of God, and other good books. It might seem that the necessity of colportage here is not so great now as formerly ; but I have no doubt a faithful colporteur can do a great deal more good now than he could five years ago, when I commenced the work. The rubbish is cleared away, erroneous opinions are eradicated ; there is nothing to do now but to labor for the salvation of souls. The opposition of one minister was so great, that when I went to his church to organize a Sabbath-school, he opposed that. I however succeeded, and sold them the "Youth's Library ;" the consequence was, some eight or ten of those young people were converted, who dated their convictions from instructions received in this Sabbath-school. The Tract Society has many praying friends here. Many, very many are enabled to bless God for the tract or book which was placed in their hands. I gave a lady, not long since, "Come to Jesus." When I next saw her she was in great mental agony. I talked with her, and before I left placed in her hands "It is I," as I thought it would suit her case. She asked me with a smile how I knew she wanted that tract. "Your soul," I answered, "may now be compared to a vessel in a storm ; here is Jesus Christ offered to you in the gospel. Be not afraid, 'It is I.'" She received it with joy, read it, and I believe was enabled to cast her cares upon Him who careth for all that seek to know him.

REPORT OF REV. F. M. HAYGOOD.—I have visited during the year about one thousand families ; held religious conversation with two-thirds of these, and found one-third habitually neglecting evangelical preaching. One-fifth were destitute of all religious books except the Bible, and 51 had not a copy of the holy word ; 62 were Roman-catholics. I obtained 135 subscribers to the American Messenger, and 56 for The Child's Paper. Circulated books to the amount of \$929 67. Visited a family, the wife only at home ; she lived only a few hundred yards from a church, but said she and her husband had not been into the house of God for about two years. Sold her a small book, and presented several tracts. Conversed with her

on personal religion, and proposed to pray for her; she was deeply affected, tears flowed freely; after prayer she thanked me for my visit, promising in future to attend church, and to seek the salvation of her soul. Another family had no Bible; indeed, they had no book at all. There were only two children, the eldest nearly grown; they could read a little; gave to the eldest a book; she promised to learn to read better, assuring me that in future she would try to make better use of her time; they were deeply interested in my visit, and invited me to call again. A young man who bought "*Alleine's Alarm*," became so much interested in the book, that in a few days he came to my basket, and said, "If I thought you had any more books as good as the one I got the other day, I would get them; for it is certainly one of the best, if not the very best book I ever saw." After a short conversation, he bought one dollar's worth. He has since expressed a desire to be a colporteur; is now going to school, and thinks he will next year ask for a commission.

A lady who told me that she formerly read novels, but in future she intended to read religious books, bought one from me; said she was glad to see me engaged in so good a work.

The city of Atlanta is at this time my principal field of labor. It is a young and growing city, only a little more than ten years old, numbering now about ten thousand souls. Many of the families are poor and destitute, and greatly need to be cared for. The population is very transient, a large number of the people moving every year. The late Colporteur Convention held in Augusta had a tendency to make me love more than ever before the Tract enterprise. If my life is spared, I hope yet long to be able to work in this Society. I love the work, because I think God is smiling upon it. A good brother from Virginia said to me the other day, "I am glad to see you at your post." He also said, "It has often been a wonder to me that so few religious books are offered for sale at the great central dépôts." I often hear it said, "Yours is a good work." "These are the cheapest and best books in the world." "I hope you will go on in your good work." "Perhaps no institution is doing so much as the Tract Society."

REPORT OF MR. WM. K. SAFFORD.—There have been several revivals of religion on my field during the past year, and a good number have united with the church of Christ, many of whom were young people. In revisiting families, I find that the most of our publications are read thoroughly, and they invariably want more of them.

In revisiting neighborhoods where I have scattered the "*Tract Primer*" and other books for children, I find that the parents are very anxious to educate their children; and they say that "they will try and give their children a good education, if they never give them any thing else."

A minister said to me one day, that "he had been about a great deal where I had scattered our books and tracts, and that we would never know the good that they are doing in this world; they are like leaven, that is working silently on the minds of the people; they are an exceedingly rich and valuable collection of publications, and they cannot but do a great deal of good." Another minister said that our system of colportage was just the kind of labor needed to strengthen the hands of the ministry, and to perform a great deal of work that was greatly needed that ministers cannot do. A large number of families who go to the house of God only once in one, and in some instances two years, who say that they go to church, are not marked as habitually neglecting evangelical preaching, because they will not say so themselves. So it is with many who, when asked if they have any religious books, say that they have; and when you want to see them, they will bring you a geography or some other school-book. A number of families who could not

read, were anxious to have me stay and teach their children to read. Sometimes I am almost discouraged to see such a state of things; and then when I see the good resulting from our labors, I am encouraged to go forward, trusting only in the Lord.

During the past two years, there have been 23 tract distributors, who have visited every part of the city of Columbus and its vicinity, and scattered our tracts among all classes, paying special attention to the poor destitute families, and neglecting none. In this work they have taken a great deal of interest; they have been instrumental in gathering a large number of children into the Sabbath-schools, and inducing many persons to attend the sanctuary. They have assisted in the circulation of the "Messenger" and "Child's Paper," and have distributed over 100,000 pages of tracts among the people from month to month, and a great deal of good has resulted therefrom.

REPORT OF MR. E. J. WEBB.—Mr. Webb has given special attention to supplying his field with Bibles and Testaments, and to the formation of Sabbath-schools. He found one-thirteenth of all the families visited destitute of the Bible, and one-fourth of all other religious books. He says, I met a man near his dwelling, and entered into conversation; found he was a backslider, and warned him of his dangerous state. Went to his house, and he bought many books for himself and family. Saw him two days after in church, praying and weeping. He applied for readmission the next day. After he bought the books, he was up most of the night reading and praying; have since heard that he continues to "try to prove faithful." Sold Flavel's Touchstone to a professor, remarking at the time it would search him deeply, and he would have to shake his napkin at every corner, to find his pearl by the touchstone. After reading it, he said he did not know where he was, meaning he could not then read his title clear; may the Lord open his eyes. Calling at a certain house, I was requested to come in and read my books to the family, for none could read. After reading and praying I left them, and the mother sent her little daughter to direct me on my way. When we were about to part, she kindly and feelingly said, "Mr. Webb, when you come this way again, can't you stop and pray for us again?" I felt a thrill of delight when thus asked by a child to intercede with God for her parents and herself. It is the first time that a child ever asked me to pray for herself and her household. I believe it was the dictate of a real desire to learn more of the ways of her God and Saviour.

REPORT OF MR. WM. L. TUCKER.—My labors have been mostly on the railroad. From what little experiment I have made, I am satisfied that much good may be done by selling the books of the American Tract Society on the cars. When I commenced, I found a young man on the road selling novels. I have not seen him for some time, and think he has left. I sold him Flavel's "Redemption," and he promised me he would read it prayerfully. The people in F—— county are very poor, and stand in great need of religious books.

REPORT OF REV. L. LEACH.—I have travelled but little, yet I hope my travels have not been in vain. I have found families who habitually neglect public worship; but the publications of the Society have reached them, and I hope have proved a blessing to them. I found one poor widow with two children, who was not able to buy books. I gave them each a book, and when I saw them again they had good news to tell me. The books had been read, and it was like the gospel coming to that house and into their hearts. They had become concerned about their salvation, and had sought for relief, and found it. Many others have become concerned, and I hope they will find Christ precious to their souls. In all my

travels, I find the publications of the American Tract Society acceptable, and I think they will prove a blessing to those who read them.

MR. D. H. KENNEMUR reports, My field of labor is but thinly settled in most parts, and but partially supplied with schools and churches; in many places the inhabitants are almost beyond the reach of either. When offering them books, I am often pained to hear parents say, "I have no use for books, for I cannot read." Of the more favored classes of people, most are able to read; but even among these there are some exceptions. Not long since I stayed with one of the best farmers of the district. I failed to make any sales; and on leaving, presented his daughter with a small publication, and was pained to hear her say, "I can't read; father do n't school his children." Intemperance and covetousness are two prevailing evils in our mountain districts, and these are combined with idleness. A large proportion of the inhabitants are neglecters of religion, and not a few reject it entirely for fatal errors. Yet the publications of the Society have found out some of these, and led them publicly to renounce their false doctrines. The field of our labors is yielding us sheaves in return, in ways and at times least expected. Last winter I sent "Fuller on Backsliding" to an old friend whom I had met in church-fellowship, but who had become an habitual drunkard, and abandoned himself to all kinds of wickedness. Shortly after, I heard the pleasing intelligence that he had become a reformed man, and readily concluded that, through God's mercy, the change had been wrought by this book. But not so: it was a book I had sold in a neighboring state, and which had accidentally fallen into his hands for a few days. It would have done you good to see him searching my trunk to find one like it, for he must have a copy of his own. Such scenes encourage us to sow beside all waters, and scatter the good seed by the wayside, and even among thorns.

MR. T. CHAFFIN reports, In the commencement of the year I entered my new field of labor, visiting from house to house across this county. I have been kindly received; but comparatively speaking, few families purchase books. There are schools dotted over the county, but many children do not attend them. In all this region only three new Sabbath-schools could be organized. I have the encouragement that several will be started in the spring; but unless sectarianism gives way, I fear little good can be effected. There is a poor mountainous pine-woods country extending nearly across the counties from east to west, with families scattered over it. It is about eighteen miles long, and six to ten wide. The people are quite poor, living in little smoky cabins. They have no churches, no Sabbath-schools, and but one day-school. The poor females in general are glad to hear me tell the story of the cross, and request me to come again, as it is their only opportunity of hearing any thing on this subject. I endeavored to start a Sabbath-school, but there was no one to teach it. In one neighborhood at this time was preached the first sermon that some grown persons had ever heard. And the first prayer ever heard by many in that section, some of whom were grown up, was offered by your colporteur. Few can read, especially among the women and children.

One day I visited 18 families, all destitute of all religious reading except the Bible, but possessed of hard hearts. Some seriousness was manifested. One, with tears flowing, said she wanted to be a Christian. Another said she had been trying to be a Christian, but feared she was not. She had a wicked husband, and would be glad if I could leave a book that would benefit him. At one house, where I was told I would "catch it," a lady shed tears of contrition, wished me to pray for her, and wanted books. At another house, a mother and daughter appeared convicted of sin. An old lady to whom I had given "Twelve Sermons to

the Aged," said it was the best book she ever read, and she would not take ten dollars for it. A gentleman and his wife, with a young friend, have recently united with God's people, and all three ascribe their conversion, under God, to the books I sold them. Many other like cases occur, but these must suffice.

Mr. W. B. ROBINSON reports that one-fourth of the families he visits cannot read; and those who can read say they have no occasion for religious books, they are good enough without them. They will sometimes inquire for novels. In visiting twenty-four families, I sold 60 cents' worth of books, and gave the same amount to the poor. So small a circulation is truly discouraging to the colporteur, though the few books and tracts sold or given away may lead to a demand for more, and may do a great deal of good.

Mr. J. B. VAUGHAN describes an interview with a Catholic, whom he found well informed respecting his sinful and dangerous condition, and fully aware that no priest could give him the pardon of his sins. "No man," said he, "can take away my sins, but Christ; the priest hasn't the power to pray my sins away. If I don't pray for myself, I shall surely go to hell when I die." An aged Catholic woman, too poor to purchase, received a few tracts with unexpected thankfulness, and with kind offers of refreshment.

COLPORTEUR CONVENTION

IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, JANUARY 28 TO 31, 1857.

It was our privilege to attend this convention, and we shall not soon forget the delightful interviews we enjoyed with brethren laboring with us in this department of Christian effort. Here we met with men who had long been working in the vineyard of our common Lord and Master; and it was not difficult to see how this agency should prove so efficient in winning souls to Christ, as humble, pious, zealous men prayerfully pursue the work of placing in every house a Baxter or a Bunyan to unfold and enforce the doctrines of the cross. A minister of the gospel, who had been present with us two days, said in a note written after his return home, "I find myself often one of your convention in imagination, feasting upon the simple, instructive, heart-stirring narratives and remarks of colporteurs and others."

The introductory discourse was preached on Wednesday evening, Jan. 28, 1857, in the lecture-room of the Presbyterian church, Augusta, by the Rev. John Jones of Washington, Wilkes county, Ga., a copy of which was requested by the Convention for publication.

Besides the Secretary from New York, the Superintendents from Richmond and Charleston, and colporteurs from South Carolina and Georgia, General Agents from those states and Virginia, the clergymen of the vicinity, and Rev. Mr. Winslow from Madras, were present and took part in the exercises.

Three successive days were chiefly occupied in personal narra-

tives by colporteurs and the secretary and general agents present. These brethren gave accounts of their early religious training, the means of their awakening and conversion, the particular providences which led them into the colporteur work ; a description of their fields of labor, the difficulties connected with it, and their success ; facts in regard to the work, and how far their fields of labor are supplied with evangelical preaching. The exercises were varied with singing and prayer, and the secretary and general agents imparted much valuable information in regard to the principles, operations, and history of the Society. Much interest was awakened in the minds of the colporteur brethren in relation to their work, and many of them who had not had the means of an intimate knowledge of the Society, were impressed with the value of the work and its adaptation to meet the wants of the vast country yet remaining to be occupied. They have gone back to their fields to redouble their efforts to place in every home some heavenly guide to point dying immortal men to a happy land beyond the grave.

Much information was given by the colporteurs laboring in South Carolina and Georgia in reference to the destitutions prevailing upon their respective fields, of which a summary has been written out, as nearly as possible in their own language.

The recital of these facts made a deep impression upon the minds of all present in the Convention. The necessity of increasing our force of colporteurs in Georgia and South Carolina was felt by the citizens of Augusta, who proved their high appreciation of the value of the work in their prompt and liberal contributions, amounting to about \$1,800 ; and on a subsequent Sabbath, \$1,600 were contributed in Savannah. Since the adjournment of the Convention, several men have been commissioned for Georgia. It is the desire of the Committee to increase the number of colporteurs to some fifty or sixty as soon as the men and means can be obtained.

Rev. Mr. Eastman writes from Augusta, Feb. 2, " We have closed our Convention. Yesterday we presented the claims of the Society to the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist churches of this city, which met a cheerful and liberal response. The friends of the Society have been deeply interested in these meetings. The facts brought out in the Convention have moved all our hearts. The plain simple story of the every-day life of these self-denying men going from door to door over these great states, bearing God's precious truth to every home, amidst ignorance, poverty, and destitution, gives the work a living reality. The power of colportage seems now to come up afresh,

and I trust an impulse has been given which will be felt for years, and reach every part of these states.

"Looking at our work from this standpoint, with the facts in full view, I have a more vivid impression of its importance to this part of the country, than I ever before had. The absolute necessity of the work, and the practical demonstration of its adaptation to meet the moral wants of the people, seems to make it clear that the hand of God is in it. I wish you and the Committee could have been present, and seen the faces and heard the voices of these brethren. It would have cheered your hearts, and encouraged your efforts and prayers for a blessing upon their future labors."

NEW ORLEANS, OR SOUTH-WESTERN AGENCY.

LOUISIANA, TEXAS, WESTERN FLORIDA, ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI, ARKANSAS, AND CHEROKEE NATION.

GENERAL AGENTS—REV. RANDOLPH A. SMITH, REV. M. WALDO, REV. R. O. WATKINS. SUPERINTENDENT—MR. L. ALEXANDER DUNCAN. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT—REV. ARCH. MCCORKLE.

COLPORTEURS.—LOUISIANA. D. Blue, F. Haman, C. G. D. Holle, J. Kappler, D. H. Miller, F. Nederman, H. Nabring, F. H. K. Oetken, C. Pingel, J. L. Simpson, J. F. Toebelman, U. B. Vining, M. W. Wagner, G. H. Washington.

TEXAS. J. Anderson, D. W. Burk, H. B. W. Burns, J. Hansjacob, H. A. G. Heyer, C. F. Munson, W. A. Provine, C. A. Weinhold, W. B. Wear, I. Yeaman, E. Templeton. *Student*—W. C. Smith.

WESTERN FLORIDA. S. E. Robinson.

ALABAMA. W. Frears, S. N. Graham, T. Morrow, L. A. Pickens, H. Pierce, J. W. Walkup, N. Wright, D. Y. Wyatt.

MISSISSIPPI. S. Brinson, R. Brown, D. A. Campbell, L. W. Galbraith, J. Haynes, I. W. Hill, W. W. C. Kelly, I. F. Keeling, N. W. King, M. T. Miller, F. C. Pearson, E. M. Richardson, E. R. Strickland, R. T. Tate, C. P. Van Houten. *Student*—I. L. Pettigrew.

ARKANSAS. E. Butler, G. N. Clappitt, J. E. Davis, J. B. Daniel, W. R. Douglas, J. B. Groves, C. F. L. Henne. *Students*—J. T. Buchanan, A. L. Kimzey, F. M. Latta.

CHEROKEE NATION. I. B. Hitchcock.

The Rev. RANDOLPH A. SMITH, General Agent, reports, I have devoted a part only of the present year to our south-western field, having been engaged during the summer and autumn in Tennessee. The mountainous regions of that state especially need exploration, colportage, and missionary labor. My tour through East Tennessee was interesting and delightful. The climate is healthful, and the natural scenery picturesque and beautiful. The citizens are frank,

social, hospitable, and generous ; and I left their ministers and churches, their Christian homes, their charming valleys, majestic mountains, their lovely streams and woodlands, with lingering and sincere regret. The Christian community received the presentation of our cause with evident sympathy in its favor. The collections made there were reported directly to New York, and are not included in the accounts of this agency.

Owing to sickness in New Orleans last April, and recent severe injuries by a fall from my horse, in Mississippi, which has confined me closely for many weeks, I have been able to occupy less than four months in active duties in the South-west agency—visiting portions of Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida. We received in that time \$1,688 in donations, exclusive of subscriptions. The total amount contributed on this field during the year, so far as reported, is \$4,180 45, which is a large increase, and a hopeful promise for the future. But frequent floods, unpleasant weather, and other difficulties in travelling through the country, have impeded my labors and materially lessened anticipated results. Such obstacles are incident to these states ; and when you consider that we have few large cities and towns, and these separated by hundreds of miles, and that capital and wealth are nearly all invested in the sparsely settled agricultural districts, you can better appreciate the arduous duties and discouragements attending benevolent and financial operations here.

The Rev. M. Waldo, general agent and superintendent, retired from the city early in May, and subsequently resigned. Under his energetic administration, the business of this agency was greatly enlarged, and the present efficient system carefully arranged and developed. At Mr. Waldo's suggestion, Mr. L. A. DUNCAN was appointed superintendent of colportage, and has discharged the responsible duties with ability and success. Rev. R. O. Watkins, general agent of Texas, has had a difficult and unproductive field, though a large and important section of country, and has resigned the office. Rev. S. Wells, general agent of Tennessee, has rendered efficient aid by a visit to Arkansas and the Indian nation, in securing funds and colporteurs, and is now reexploring the same territory.

During the past year I have travelled 15,245 miles in exploring destitute fields, visiting colporteurs and securing others, and striving to elicit a deeper interest, among the churches and in the community, in this important work of home evangelization.

My visits to four synods, and several other ecclesiastical bodies, in different states, were kindly received, and the cause strongly com-

mended to the confidence and liberality of the Christian public. I have scattered by the wayside precious leaves from the "tree of life," that may perchance prove a blessing to the people. About 132,000 pages of valuable religious literature, in books, tracts, and other documents, were thus distributed, and several subscribers secured to the Messenger and Child's Paper. The people highly appreciate these invaluable papers. Their circulation is eminently useful. I have secured fifteen or sixteen new colporteurs, thirteen life members by the payment of \$20 each, and ten life directors, each \$50, who will doubtless prove life friends and life blessings to the Society.

So far as I have been able to examine the destitutions of our extended territory, the peculiar and happy adaption of the system of colportage to the wants and condition of the people is everywhere manifest. And, for the present, I know of no other human instrumentality by which a large portion of our scattered population, of different languages, customs, and sentiments, can be reached with the proffers of the gospel. Thousands of families live secluded in piney or prairie solitudes, isolated from institutions of learning, at a distance of ten, twenty, sometimes fifty miles from religious influences and privileges. In one instance an aged couple, with whom a colporteur had conversed and prayed, thanked him with grateful tears, saying, "It is the first prayer we have heard in twenty-six years." The next day they *walked twelve miles*, to the nearest house, as they said, "to hear him talk and pray a little more before he went away." Truly, even now, as in the ministry of primitive Christianity, the "common people" hear the gospel gladly.

In one of the finest counties of a sister state, which I visited a few months since, the colporteur found 180 families in 700 entirely destitute of the Bible. In many sections of our country, the present and rising generation must live and die unblessed by the gracious influences of the gospel, unless it is *carried to their far distant and humble homes*. And we believe there is no agency better adapted to this mission of love and mercy than faithful colporteurs, men of piety and zeal, godly, Christlike laymen, who go with love to God and the souls of men in their hearts, and the messages of salvation in their hands; thus bringing the wedded power of a sanctified press and personal Christian experience home affectionately and warmly to the heart and conscience, and then supplying, in some precious book, a Baxter, Bunyan, James, Doddridge, Alleine, Hall, Edwards, Summerfield, Harlan Page, Payson, or Alexander, to preach the simple truth as it is in Jesus; reimpressing the voice of prayer and Christian exhorta-

tion, which fell from the lips of the colporteur for the first time perhaps, in their secluded cabins, directing them to the word of life and the Lamb of God. Next in moral power to the influence of the living ministry, the Bible, and the ordinances of the sanctuary, is a *Christian literature, baptized in the Spirit of Christ, circulated among the people.* And careful observation has convinced me, that religious publications are preëminently useful when they inculcate the simple truths and doctrines of the gospel, appealing to the reason and conscience, like the Bible, divested of sectarian or partisan bias and opinions. The masses are sensitive and suspicious. Ignorance and prejudice are confederate opponents of Christianity, and the prolific parentage of persistent impenitence and vice. But the unity of effort among Christians of different names, has a happy influence upon the irreligious and antichristian world. They are disarmed and conciliated when good men unite in *doing good for Christ alone.* They are then constrained to admit that it is Christian love, rather than motives of partisan or self-interest, that impels them.

Instances are not infrequent where irreligious men purchase books, accept a tract, or permit colporteurs to converse and pray with their families, because the American Tract Society is not sectarian, when they would repel a denominational missionary or agent. Said one, "I am willing persons should come to *do us good*, but not to proselyte, or teach human creeds and notions."

Our great work is to win souls to Christ, for if men can be persuaded to believe the gospel and embrace the Saviour, they will then gladly associate with his followers in some organized church, however strong their previous prejudices against it.

Our colporteurs frequently render efficient assistance to churches and Sunday-schools, and they often organize the nucleus of new ones in destitute frontier settlements. Everywhere our work is auxiliary to the ministry and the disciples of Jesus, in carrying forward the gospel mission of human redemption.

In a word of review, God has signally blessed the operations of the Society in the wide diffusion of truth, the progress of intelligence and virtue; in the arrest of vice and infidelity, and the salvation of many souls unreached by other instrumentalities.

Providence is thus urgently appealing to every philanthropist for aid in extending this system of colportage, so admirably adapted to the scattered population of the south-western states and territories; and this appeal is more forcibly pressed upon the attention of the benevolent on our home field, from the fact that the expenditures of this

branch now exceed the donations made here nearly ten thousand dollars per annum. And while we rejoice in the rapidly extending usefulness of the Society in the increase of its operations, we are mortified that the expenses exceed the income by an equally augmenting ratio. The parent Society has expended a large amount from the liberal contributions of northern Christians, to carry on this work of love and grace among the destitute population of the south-west. This fact alone should stimulate every friend of the south to a cheerful emulation in sustaining our home operations. We need at least twenty thousand dollars during the present year. We are happily assured that public interest is gradually assuming a promising aspect. One noble-minded Christian has pledged \$400, another \$250, and several others \$150 each, for colportage the ensuing year. And could we reach the people by proper agencies at a propitious season, we believe the entire amount required could be raised within our bounds. But the peculiar character of financial business in the south reduces the time for collections for benevolent purposes to a few months in the year.

Mr. L. A. DUNCAN, superintendent of colportage, says, This field extends over a territory about ten times as large as the state of New York, but contains only about two-thirds as large a population. Much time has been spent these two years, since the agency was established, in exploring the field and systematizing the work. During the year, sixty-eight colporteurs and students have labored twenty-one years, six months, and seven days. The sales by colporteurs and at the depository have been \$12,277 72, and the grants, \$1,885 77; whole amount circulated, \$14,163 49. The colporteurs visited 50,598 families, with 8,791 of whom they united in prayer. They held 1,011 religious meetings, and found 8,624 families who neglected evangelical preaching; 8,131 were Roman-catholics, 926 were destitute of the Bible, 1,994 of all religious books except the Bible.

It will be seen from the above, that nearly one-fifth of the families visited are Roman-catholics, and more than one-fifth neglect evangelical preaching. We hope for more cheering results the coming year. The prospect of increasing usefulness is encouraging. Our facilities of communication with different parts of the field are improving.

The South-Western Branch of the American Tract Society, with which the New Orleans agency is identified, have issued a Report of their operations for the past year in a separate document, for circulation on their field.

ST. LOUIS AGENCY.

MISSOURI, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS, AND IOWA.

SUPERINTENDENT—REV. CHARLES PEABODY. GENERAL AGENTS—REV. GLEN WOOD, REV. E. WRIGHT,

COLPORTEURS.—MISSOURI. B. Baker, H. H. Borgmeier, J. F. Cotlander, S. H. Holtgraive, H. Homan, D. M. Johnston, S. Reinholtz, J. Rice, J. Satterfield, F. W. Schenck, T. Schnitzler, M. Simon, E. A. von Spreckelsen, J. G. Urban, E. Werner, R. Y. White. *Student*—G. H. Schnur.

CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS. C. H. Benson, J. L. Brown, J. Cloyd, R. M. Davis, A. Deffenbaugh, W. Grote, S. Harrington, C. Huxsoll, C. Knapp, A. R. Leslie, A. Muzzy, C. M. Root, C. L. Schnepel, J. N. Schmahlenberger, W. Storrs, J. C. Thompson, J. Vanderlas, A. Wedge, C. Wenz, J. Whiting, J. C. Wilson. *Students*—A. D. Leslie, E. O. Tade.

IOWA. C. L. Adams, E. Bockennoogen, H. Diedrich, W. A. Eggleston, J. C. Franke, W. Glew, E. G. O. Groat, J. G. Hartman, J. Hetzul, I. W. Kingsley, J. Moore, J. Strong, E. N. Thomas, H. Webb. *Students*—D. L. Gorton, G. W. Tade, A. McClain.

Rev. CHARLES PEABODY, General Agent and Superintendent, reports :

You will see, by the accompanying statistics, that we have, by God's blessing, made some progress during the year. Our donations are larger than in any previous year, amounting to upwards of \$7,000. This encouraging increase is chiefly to be attributed to the indefatigable labors of my associate, Rev. Glen Wood, from whose report herewith, you will see the results of his work for the year. Rev. Edmund Wright has also spent eight and a half months visiting the churches in some parts of Missouri, and has prosecuted his labors with great fidelity and success. This part of the field has never before been visited, and the results of his agency thus far encourage us to hope that the colporteur work is becoming better understood and appreciated in this section of the field.

The whole number of colporteurs who have been in service during the year is 58: namely, Missouri, 17; Illinois, 23; Iowa, 18. Five of these were students, devoting only their summer vacation to the work, and 23 have labored among the German population. The whole amount of time devoted to the colporteur service has been 26½ years. The whole number of families visited, has been 54,672; number of families in which prayer or religious conversation has been held, 23,930; number of volumes sold by colporteurs, 54,960, amounting to \$13,739 87; number of volumes given to destitute families, 11,970, amount, \$1,995 05; amount of publications sold from depository at St. Louis, \$2,462 24.

It is a circumstance calling for devout gratitude to God, that while one or more of the colporteurs have died annually for several years past, not one of our number during the last year has fallen. Sickness and other trials have hindered the labors of many, and the late severe winter has driven many from the field, to seek shelter for a time at their own firesides, yet the work has moved steadily onward. We are encouraged by many unexpected and most cheering indications of the divine blessing upon the work.

KIND TREATMENT.

One of the most pleasant circumstances which has been brought to view by the correspondence of the past year, is the evidence of faithfulness and earnest piety on the part of colporteurs, exhibited by the almost universal kindness with which they have been received. The amount which they have been obliged to pay in their labors among the people, for horse-keeping, meals and lodgings, tolls and ferriage, etc., will not average more than \$12 to each colporteur for the whole year. But this feature will be best exhibited by a few extracts from their letters.

ILLINOIS.—I was taken sick at a religious meeting which I attended, and was carried to the house of a friend near by, where I lay in extreme suffering three days. I was then removed to the house of another kind friend, where the people were equally attentive. I was not left a moment by day or by night for eight days. They sent 85 miles for my family, and then, when I recovered, took them home again. The physician came three miles once, and often twice every day to see me, and did not charge a dime for his services. He was an unbeliever, and I asked him why he did not charge me any thing. He replied, "I see you are in earnest about your work, and I cannot charge a man who suffers as you have done in trying to do good to others." My friends in that neighborhood showed so much anxiety for my recovery, which was considered very doubtful, that I could not but think they were anxious that my work should not cease.

C. H. B.

MISSOURI.—I am happy to inform you that my good friends in this place have very kindly volunteered to furnish me with a horse and wagon, which I needed very much to prosecute my labors in the country. Some subscribed very liberally, and nearly all gave something. I feel it is because they all love the work in which I am engaged.

T. S.

IOWA.—I have been charged very little for staying all night with my horse in all my labors, and yet every thing is very high in this new country. People seem glad to see me, and the children come flocking after me wherever I go.

J. S.

INCIDENTS OF COLPORTEUR LABOR

The labors of colporteurs have been so varied, and so full of incidents illustrative of the condition of the people they have visited, that it is impossible to arrange every item under a separate head. They

have labored sometimes in protracted meetings, then from house to house; at one time organizing a Sabbath-school, at another time getting a few families together for a prayer-meeting; now in the town, then away among the scattered settlements in the country; at one time bowing with a Christian family around the domestic altar, at another time amid scoffs and jeers, in the haunts of intemperance and infidelity, testifying of Christ; sometimes in cold and hunger far away among strangers, and then rejoicing with some one reclaimed from the paths of sin by the winning words he speaks and carries in his basket from door to door. A few extracts, condensed as much as possible, is all my space will afford.

ILLINOIS.—I find many families who cannot read, and I spend much time in reading to them and trying to explain the truths of revelation. In one family I found the parents and eleven children, nearly all unable to read. I asked one of them "who was the first man." None could tell. Finally the father answered, "Why, Moses." None of the family had any idea of man's sinfulness, or the need of salvation by Christ.

A. D.

IOWA.—The Baptist church in B— have been holding an interesting protracted meeting every night, which I have been cordially invited to attend; and although of another denomination, they have welcomed me as a brother and fellow-laborer in the Lord, both in the meetings and among the families.

W. A. E.

MISSOURI.—The Lord has poured out his Spirit and revived his work in many parts of my field. I have attended many of the meetings. Ministers and others are urging me to visit them at such seasons, but I find it impossible to go everywhere at the same time.

D. M. J.

IOWA.—This quarter I have been in a hard part of my field. I have found many infidels, and but few Christians. Some of those who profess religion do a great deal of injury to the cause. The infidel and the Universalist are here doing all they can to extend their own views. One told me that if I would read "Volney's Ruins," I would give up my Christianity. I told him I knew in whom I had believed, and persuaded him to read "Nelson's Cause and Cure of Infidelity."

W. G.

MISSOURI.—In this city of 5,000 inhabitants are to be found Americans from different states, English, Welsh, Irish, Germans, French, Creoles, and Jews, bond and free; some of sound faith, and some of no faith at all. Among such a mixture, I find the work of a colporteur is a necessary and blessed work.

T. A.

ILLINOIS.—I called lately on an aged couple, who at first treated me rudely. They had lived in the place nine years. The man had been convicted of sin in his younger days, but said the feeling had long since left him. After conversing and praying with them, and selling them some books, they urged me as I left to call again.

A. D.

MISSOURI.—I found one man, abundantly able to buy, who had not a Bible nor a religious book in his house. I could not induce him to buy a book, nor to receive one as a gift. He was unwilling that I should leave one in his house. I left a "Christian Almanac" and some tracts on his yard fence, which he loudly threatened that he would tear up. I have not been that way, nor heard from him since.

D. M. J.

IOWA.—A large proportion of the families I visit know very little about the Society, or the work in which I am engaged, and in some places people are ready to close their hearts and their doors against me; so that as I go on my way, I can only lift the silent prayer to God to have mercy on their blindness. Other families I find who have heard of the Society in the older states, and love to give me a cordial welcome.

I. W. K.

ILLINOIS.—Some parts of my field are as dark as any section of country I ever saw, and yet the success of my labors, as far as I can judge, is as great as in more favored places which I have visited. In the town of H——, in a population of 150 families, there are five grog-shops. In every house, shop, or grocery, I offered my books, and testified of Christ.

J. M.

IOWA.—I have found many who left their religion at the east, or as they said, had laid it up on a shelf, and had not been to church for several years. They were not willing that I should pray in their families, and yet I have sometimes seen such persons deeply anxious about their souls.

E. G. O. G.

ATTACHMENT TO THE WORK.

Some of the colporteurs laboring in this field have been in service many years, and the longer they continue, the more deeply their hearts become interested in their labors. A most pleasing feature often exhibited in their correspondence is, the strong and earnest attachment which their continued toils have inspired in them, towards the Society and its great enterprise. There can be no better proof that a man's heart is engaged in his work, than to see him intently employed in a sphere of service involving almost constant absence from home, exposure to fatigue, hardship, indifference, and often reproach, for wages no more than half what his services would command in some secular pursuit. It shows that we have some men here, amid this intensely excited world of enterprise and speculation, who love the kingdom of Christ more than they love money. I select a few passages in illustration of this feature.

ILLINOIS.—If I did not hear continually of blessings on my past labors, I should shrink from being a wanderer one day longer. But my dedication to the service of God is just so long as he gives me life and continues to bless my labors. I find no difficulty in drawing into a kindly conversation almost every individual in the families I visit. I then offer such books as suit their condition. From these efforts I am often permitted to see good fruits. I will then press on with the work so long as God continues to show me such proofs of his favor and blessing.

J. M.

IOWA.—During the past quarter I passed my line of threescore years, and the fourth anniversary of my colporteur labors. The more I do in this heavenly work, the more ardent I am, and the more aversion I have to the thought of abandoning it while life and health continue.

I. W. K.

MISSOURI.—I would rather give something to the Society, than to receive any thing more than sufficient for my necessary wants. If I were not so poor, I believe I should work for nothing, and give some money too to this glorious enterprise. My heart is in it, and I see more and more almost daily of its blessed fruits.

T. S.

GOOD RESULTS.

But the most interesting feature which has been developed through my intercourse and correspondence with the colporteurs, during the past year, is the encouraging results of the work which have come to light. These results are very numerous, and coming out as they do in so many ways, show in a beautiful aspect the bearings of the colporteur enterprise upon almost every form of society in this great valley.

ILLINOIS.—In passing over my large field, a great change seems to have taken place for the better in many quarters where I had been before. The character and manners of the people are improved, and they manifest increasing interest in the Tract cause. In the early part of this quarter, I visited by request a neighborhood which I had thoroughly canvassed in the first year of my colporteur labor, three years ago. Then there was no church, and no Sabbath-school, and I never saw a people more ignorant and destitute. Now I find a good-sized log church full of people of all ages, and about 100 Sabbath-school scholars, some of them over 60 years of age. After the Sabbath-school was over, the pastor preached to one of the most attentive congregations I ever saw. Such a sight had never been seen three years ago.

C. H. B.

MISSOURI.—I find prejudice invariably gives way after I have visited a neighborhood once. A man who would not on account of prejudice buy any books of me last year, but to whom I gave a Christian Almanac, this year bought nearly seven dollars' worth of books, and said if he had the money he would buy many more.

D. M. J.

MISSOURI.—About two years ago, I called on a man who seemed greatly prejudiced against my books and the cause. I conversed with him faithfully without any apparent effect, except persuading him to buy a 15-cent book for his little daughter, who pleaded very earnestly for the book. Since that time he has been very friendly to me, and has at different times purchased over \$30 worth of books of me.

J. R.

IOWA.—To-day a family gave me their Catholic prayer-book for one of my books. Another poor family gave me a gold dollar that had been long prized for some associations connected with it, for some books, such as "Mother at Home," etc. When I come across such gold dollars, I am sure to get them for good books.

W. A. E.

Though the progress of our colporteur enterprise is slow, far behind our desires and hopes, we are yet far from being discouraged. We believe seeds are being sown among the rapidly growing population of this great valley, which will, in germinating and expanding, bear an important part in shaping its future destinies. The history of evangelization in the past, exhibits the same slow and silent progress. It is the process by which God sees fit to accomplish his ends, both in the kingdom of nature and of grace. As we cannot expect an insignificant seed to develop itself, in a brief number of years, into a robust and stately tree, no more can we expect that

any great religious enterprise, like that of colportage, will work some sudden revolution in the boiling, surging, unsettled civilization of the great West.

With patience and faith therefore, looking upwards to God for strength, and to you for sympathy and counsel, we buckle on the harness for the work of another year.

REPORT OF REV. GLEN WOOD, GENERAL AGENT.

DEAR BRETHREN—In the year ending March 1st I have travelled 3,629 miles, and preached 117 sermons and lectures. The results in the gathering of colporteurs and contributions have been more encouraging than ever. Several new men have been brought into the work to occupy new and important fields. Some of them have never performed more hopeful labors, though they have sold less books than usual; and the contributions that have passed through my hands, have amounted to \$5,255.88. Encouraging as these results are, still the truth is too apparent, that we have hardly made a beginning upon the work there is before us in this great field.

Though my field has been altered, by cutting off Minnesota and Missouri and adding Nebraska, the amount of labor required is quite as great as was necessary in the original bounds six years ago. Nebraska has a population greater than Minnesota territory had then, and the increase in Illinois and Iowa far exceeds the entire population of Missouri at that time. Illinois has 50,914 square miles, and probably 1,250,000 population; Iowa has 55,409 square miles, and probably 750,000 population; Nebraska, probably not less than 10,000: total, 106,323 square miles to be traversed, and more than two millions of people to be visited. In this I include the whole of Illinois, though the north-east part belongs to the Chicago field, and I have not included the proportion of Nebraska that is already occupied. Here then are over 100,000 square miles to be traversed, and nearly 2,000,000 of people to be visited, within the bounds of my labors.

Large portions of this territory are frontier or new settlements, with but a few thousands, or even a few scores, in a county. Many thousands, nay, even ten thousands, are habitually absent from the house of God; some because there is no public service within their reach, but many more because they have something else to attend to, or are entirely destitute of a disposition to serve God.

The lust of wealth and the pride of life, or the necessities and privations incident to a beginning in the world, and especially in a new country, so occupy their minds, and fill their hands and hearts, that

they have no time or disposition to attend to the things of the future world.

Of course the only way they are to be reached, is by the kindness of some friend of Christ and man, who shall take the time and trouble *to go to them* and preach the gospel at their firesides, shops, barns, fields, or wherever they may be found.

I say the *only* way. Of course if they cannot, or will not, or for any reason *do not* seek the means of grace for themselves, *somebody must seek them* and carry salvation to them. Is there any other way?

But says the selfish professor of religion, who has no heart for the go-about-doing-good plan of the glorious Jesus, If they will not avail themselves of the means of grace, so abundant in these days—if, when Testaments and Bibles and other religious books are so cheap, they will not supply themselves, “let them go.”

Let them go, indeed! Go where? They are condemned already, and the wrath of God abideth on them. They are on the way to the prison of the universe. But Jesus came to save them. Has he found you in that very path, and turned you away, and given you a hope of eternal life, because you were particularly *worth* being sought out? Wherein, then, consists your worthiness? Is it found in inactivity and slothfulness in the Master's vineyard? Or has he sought you *merely for the sake of saving you*, so that you have nothing to do but passively suffer yourself to be taken to heaven. *Or has he given you light, that you may let that light shine, that others seeing your good works, may glorify your Father who is in heaven?*

Has He not in his own person taught us how that light is to be made to shine? Surely, “Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature,” is Christ's plan for blessing the world with the tidings of salvation. And that plan is evidently based on the known disposition of the guilty to avoid the light, and shun those who would bring it to them. *Go*, then, is the command of love and mercy. *Go*, is the lesson of “God manifest in the flesh.” *Go*, is the dying command of Him in whom *we* have hope. *Go* “into the highways and hedges.” *Go* “into *all* the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” *Go—go* everywhere, and do good to *all* men as you have opportunity. This is the heavenly way of doing good. And *this is the plan of Colportage* as developed by the grace of God through the agency of the American Tract Society.

Thus the book of Instructions to Colporteurs and Agents, page 17, says, “And let it be well considered what is the responsibility resting on this Society, with all the facilities God has given it, and the

confidence and coöperation of the great body of evangelical Christians, to endeavor to reach *all the millions of the present generation in our own land who are destitute of the stated means of grace.*"

And again, page 35, "The Committee wish *systematic* efforts made for supplying *all* the accessible population, that they may know that as far as the work has proceeded, *something has been attempted for the spiritual benefit of all.*"

Thus one colporteur, in his last report, says, "No family, high or low, rich or poor, black or white, Christian or infidel, has been passed by, but 1,891 families, of almost every conceivable variety of constitution, mind, and belief, have been visited."

Thus another: "I have been in summer heat and winter cold, amid sickness and death, visiting the sick and dying, amidst friends and foes, and in the groceries, bearing testimony to that wicked class that deny God. Thus I have been permitted to have personal conversation with at least 5,000 individuals, and have enjoyed almost the continual presence of my precious Saviour."

This then is the way to reach the multitudes. This is the way directed by the Saviour; and this is the way the church has undertaken to do, through the agency of the American Tract Society.

To carry out the plan, and perform the work to be done, will require not less than 200 colporteurs for Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska, with their present population; that is, one man for every 2,000 families, or 10,000 inhabitants, which is about the average annual visitation. But reducing this one-fourth, we shall then require, say 100 men for Illinois, and 50 for Iowa and Nebraska. At an average annual expense of \$400 for each year's labor, this would require \$40,000 for Illinois, and \$20,000 for Iowa and Nebraska.

The men required for this work constitute a peculiar class. They must be, not the educated and refined; not the rich, who have been brought up in affluence and style; not the mere business men, good at trade; not the "goodish" men, nor even those whose chief qualification is their goodness. These are not necessarily disqualifications, but the men we need must be, 1st. Good; that is, thoroughly *humble* and ardently devoted. 2d. Energetic and active, both in mind and body. 3d. Of at least ordinary business talent; systematic and reliable in habits, both of a moral and a business character. 4th. Teachable, apt to learn, quick to perceive, studious of human nature. 5th. Truly beneficent, sparing not self, fond of doing good, ready to distribute; yet, 6th. Scrupulously faithful as stewards of God, prudently dispensing his bounty according to his pleasure. Of such

men, we have employment this moment for at least 150, of whom we have in the field perhaps 35 or 40.

It is a source of great encouragement that God seems to be moving the hearts of the people to take hold of this work in earnest. This commenced in Illinois last summer, with the proposition of a young brother of the Presbyterian church to pay \$300 in quarterly advance payments of \$75 each, the first of which he paid at the time, for the salary of a colporteur.

Commencing a new year in Iowa, this generous act has been a new starting-point with me. Considering anew the necessity, nature, and adaptation of colportage to the present condition of our western society, I have proposed to some of our churches, and to individual Christians who have shared largely in the prosperity of the times, to support, or at least pay the salary of a colporteur, at not less than \$200.

To this, greatly to my encouragement, and with devout thanksgiving to God, be it said, that many have generously responded, in sums varying from \$25 to \$400 each; so that the payments and subscriptions since January 1, 1857, have more than tripled the amount of any previous year in the same time and places.

The proposition now definitely before my mind, and deeply sympathized in by a few friends whom I have visited this winter, is 50 men for Iowa and the means of their support, say \$20,000. Twenty of these men, and \$5,000, we shall attempt to secure this year.

The same effort in proportion must also be extended to Illinois, 100 men and \$40,000. I expect the friends there will entertain it as heartily as that for Iowa is received here.

The great idea of colportage, which is the characteristic idea of the gospel, namely, *salvation from sin for the multitude*, is the prominent object with us in this new era of our work—the books, the colporteurs, the contributions, ourselves, *the Tract Society*, for the glory of our God and the salvation of men. Jesus Christ, and him crucified, the Saviour of the world, we preach by authority of the Father, and under the impulse of his promise, confirmed by his oath. Heb. 6 : 18.

The means are in the hands of our friends, the servants of our God, and I cannot but hope will be forthcoming as the men are found.

Shall we have the men? Are there not to be found young men who have tasted of the heavenly gift and know the blessedness of eternal life, who so much prize the glory of God, the honor of Christ, and the salvation of men, for whom their Saviour died, as he did for them, that they are willing to devote themselves to labors of love for the sake of doing good? Who that is able to make money, being

made a new creature in Christ Jesus, is not also able to win souls to truth and heaven?

Where are the men of middle age who, having been put in possession of a competency, say \$10,000 to \$100,000, or upwards, will hear the call of God now to devote themselves to the Saviour's plan of *going about doing good*? Who will volunteer to take a county and see it thoroughly visited from year to year, and supplied with a healthy, practical religious literature?

Where are those aged saints who, having trained up a family, and still blessed with health and vigor, but having no responsibilities necessarily demanding their stay at home, will follow the example of some excellent brethren who are now in the field, gathering rich and glorious harvests into the kingdom of heaven?

This work must be done. Somebody must do it. We cannot give great salaries. There must therefore be sacrifices somewhere. We have no right to demand that all those sacrifices shall be made by poor brethren, whose only means of support are the salaries which they receive for their labor.

The fact that you have succeeded in business, so far as that can go, is evidence that you can succeed here, and is certainly quite as good evidence of "a call" to the work, as repeated failures in business could be. Moreover, the gathering of souls into the kingdom of heaven will certainly be as valuable treasure "laid up," as any accumulations of dollars and property. Such treasures will remain to be enjoyed when the heavens and earth are passed away. Why then shall not *you* go—especially you who have enough of this world already?

There are wide wastes of virgin soil over which no colporteur has yet found his way, but where the people want books and Christian visits. They will receive a kind and Christian visit with grateful hearts. Here we may anticipate the evil, and sow the good seed of the word. God will reward the labor. Treasures in heaven will reward it. Peace like a river, and joy unspeakable and full of glory will reward it, even while it is being performed.

Who will go? We have room and "a place" for 70 in Illinois, 35 in Iowa, 3 in Nebraska, and probably 30 in Missouri. Who will go? Since my last annual report, one has engaged to go to Council Bluffs; another has gone west of the Des Moines; another, speaking three languages, has been at work over one hundred miles up the Des Moines river; another has just engaged, and several new men have been added to the corps in Illinois during the year.

But some have been obliged to resign, so that we have gained

very little in the amount of labor performed. *We must have more men.* Who will go—*who?*

ENCOURAGEMENTS.

The population coming among us is chiefly from regions where the blessings of education and the gospel have been enjoyed. But a small proportion of the families, native or foreign, as I believe, have not at least one member able to read.

One colporteur who visited nearly two thousand families last year says, "I do not remember to have found a single family, however destitute, in which there was not at least one tolerable reader." The tendency is to neglect the school-house as well as the church. But still the benefits of the ability to read and write are appreciated and esteemed, and this greatly aids the colporteur in his efforts for the youth. Those efforts also secure him consideration in the mind, and a place in the hearts of the parents.

Again, we are generally received with kindness. No matter how wicked the man, or how poor the family, or how great the ignorance, the development of the kind heart and sympathizing spirit of the Christian, and the explanation of the great and beneficent enterprise he is engaged in, secures almost universally the welcome which wells up from the slumbering nobility of man as God made him.

Says an excellent brother already referred to, "I have been in summer heat and winter cold, amidst friends and foes, and should my dear Saviour ask, 'Lackest thou any thing?' I should be constrained to answer, 'No, Lord.'"

Another told me about visiting a family where the brutal husband was in the habit of beating his wife, and had done so but just before his arrival. After conversing with the family, he went out to the barn to see the husband and father, and found him sullen and morose. He spoke kind words; first about the barn, stock, etc.; then called attention to his books, and explained the nature of his work, and introduced the subject of personal religion—told the man he knew of his treatment to his wife, pointed out the wickedness of such a course, and invited him to the house, whither he reluctantly went. After further conversation and prayer the colporteur left, but not without a promise from that man that he would cease to do evil, and learn to do well. Subsequent visits afforded satisfaction of reform, at least in the treatment of his family. Surely light springs up in the paths of them that sow righteousness.

I must refer you chiefly to Mr. Peabody's report for the facts and

incidents illustrative of results on this field. But from my personal visitation of the fields of labor, and interviews with the men on the ground, I think I may say confidently, that the number gathered into the churches directly and indirectly on this field, through the labors of the colporteurs and the influence of the books they circulate, must be counted by scores at least, and probably by hundreds, annually.

THE SUPPORT OF THE CAUSE ON THE GROUND.

The contributions in Iowa, as published in the Annual Report for 1850, were \$38; in Illinois, the same year, \$375 82 This year I have received \$2,341 in Iowa, and over \$2,900 in Illinois: total, \$5,255 88. This is an advance of \$1,078 over last year, and does not cover the *total* receipts for the year, as some has been paid in through other sources, especially from the north-eastern part of Illinois, through Mr. Hickey, superintendent at Chicago.

With this came also this year the generous sympathies and aid previously referred to, of brethren and churches giving largely to cover the salaries of colporteurs and the agent. Never before have I been able to look out from under the cloud of expenditures exceeding receipts, even at the low salaries and extremely economical expenses which ever characterize the operations of this enterprise.

Hitherto I have been afraid to meet a noble man, just *the* man for the work, because he could not labor at a salary of \$150, and I dared not offer a compensation sufficient to secure his services, and my soul would sink within me to allow him to pass when I thought of the many thousands to whom he would probably carry the tidings of salvation.

But now my heart is light. I understand that the compensation may be increased where necessary; and Christians, with spirits touched I am sure by the grace of God, come to me and select their men from my list, or say to me, "Put a man into the field at my expense." This begins to look like pentecostal times, when Christians asked *first*, Lord, "*what* wilt thou have me to do?" rather than, How much will it cost? settling first the work to be done, and then trusting Him who dictates that work, for grace and wisdom to direct, while the energies are put forth to perform the work.

May I appeal to Christian brethren and friends over my field in Iowa and Illinois, and ask, *Is not this the way?* Who will consecrate to this work so much at least of the abundance which the glorious God and Father of our Lord Jesus has given him, as will put one man of the right kind into this waving field, to gather in a harvest of souls to the garner of the Lord?

Commending the whole subject to the glorious Giver of all, who has led and blessed us hitherto, and to our brethren and friends, His children and servants, appointed to be His representatives among men, I go forward to a new year of labor with confidence and hope, expecting until I shall see one hundred laborers in Illinois and fifty in Iowa, and the necessary means for their support paid in on the field from year to year.

COLPORTEUR MEETING IN IOWA.

A colporteur meeting of a peculiar character was held in Denmark, Iowa, October 18. It was small, only three colporteurs and a general agent, Rev. Glen Wood, being present, together with two ministers, and a few other friends who were invited in; yet the narratives and discussions were marked by the prominent characteristics which have appeared in larger conventions.

Many facts were related strikingly illustrating the necessity for some such agency as colportage, and its adaptation to reach and supply the people of the distant West with the gospel. Multitudes of families have been found whom no Christian but the colporteur had ever visited with the tidings of salvation. Upon such the visit of the simple, unostentatious, earnest colporteur who comes to them only for their spiritual good, willing to bear his own expenses and give away his books if need be, only desiring that they should hear, read, repent, believe, and be saved, has a wonderful effect. "It confounds infidels, disarms prejudice, converts enemies to friends, sows light in the paths of those who are walking in darkness, and leads men to Jesus, to the saving of their souls."

Many pleasing incidents were related showing how the poor, the destitute and wicked, the despisers and opposers, the dark-minded and hard-hearted, were reached at their firesides with a gospel message warm from a heart of love. It was fully demonstrated, that all classes of men can be reached by this system; and that the colporteurs were men of prayer, devoted to the great theme of colportage, Jesus Christ, and him crucified. As a consequence much success has attended their labors.

On the Sabbath the pastor of one of the churches appointed a meeting, which was addressed by the colporteurs, to whose statements a large audience listened with deep interest. The colporteurs returned to their fields greatly encouraged by the interview, and leaving a rich blessing in their influence on the people.

CENTRAL AGENCY AT CINCINNATI.

FIELD—OHIO, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, AND
NORTHERN ALABAMA.

GENERAL AGENTS.—Rev. FRANKLIN MAGINNIS, Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Rev. S. WARREN, Hudson, Ohio, (now transferred to Chicago Agency;) Rev. SHEPARD WELLS, Columbia, Tenn. EXPLORING AGENT—J. A. DELAVERGNE. SUPERINTENDENT OF COLPORTAGE—SEELY WOOD, Cincinnati. DEPOSITORY AND OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, No. 163 Walnut-street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

COLPORTEURS.—OHIO. J. A. Allen, A. Anderson, Otis Bartlett, Rev. L. L. Bonnell, E. B. Buckman, Thos. Bell, Rev. Alex. Conklin, H. Frillman, C. Gerhold, M. Harthan, J. S. Hull, J. T. Harcourt, Thos. Henderson, Sol. Johnson, Philander Jones, H. F. Knowles, Geo. Loffler, J. Miller, E. Miller, I. Mattison, C. Potschner, W. Patterson, J. S. Price, W. I. Riker, G. Rumbaugh, L. Roloson, Rev. I. S. Shaller, F. W. Steffins, J. G. Stough, C. Saure, J. H. Stanberg, Geo. L. Turner, A. L. Van Vleck, M. Waldruff, W. Waldruff.

INDIANA. H. Allen, D. I. Beck, Rev. S. L. Collins, C. Detering, Geo. Eckhardt, D. Evans, F. F. Friedgen, J. Hammond, J. P. Houge, H. Jacob, Rev. P. Karbach, H. Mertens, R. McCurdy, J. A. Orr, Rev. T. J. Stearns, Rev. J. F. Schurman, J. P. Voelker, A. F. Watt.

KENTUCKY. Rev. M. Armstrong, Rev. Geo. W. Arnold, Rev. H. G. Burnett, Rev. J. R. Barbee, Rev. S. S. Duval, Rev. J. Dever, Z. M. P. Frazer, H. Gregory, H. Hohnoth, Rev. M. H. Henry, F. W. Hoss, P. I. Heyer, F. X. Kopf, Rev. J. Logan, H. B. McCracken, C. Frillman, Q. C. Malone, J. Rice, T. I. Rigg, T. Reynolds, W. D. Trainer, J. Taylor.

TENNESSEE. G. A. Alexander, T. R. Blalock, J. W. Blessing, Rev. I. N. Blackburn, G. W. Chennault, Rev. J. Crawford, G. M. Crawford, J. A. Delavergne, J. R. Dean, Rev. Wm. Ellis, W. R. Ellison, A. M. Gillespie, Rev. G. P. Hastings, J. Kincaannon, Rev. F. Lack, W. C. Murchison, Rev. W. Mowbray, W. R. Magee, W. A. Mathes, T. Mooney, Rev. J. H. Patterson, Rev. R. Ritchey, D. M. Smith, A. G. Shelton, Rev. B. H. Snoddy, Rev. I. R. Smotherman, Rev. L. Whittaker, H. Williams, Rev. L. B. Wiley.

ALABAMA. Rev. D. K. Hunter, Rev. R. W. Wilkes, W. H. Wallace, J. R. Wallace.

STUDENTS.—OHIO. W. H. Dyer, J. E. Findley, R. Hooper, J. H. Harris, H. Heigord, A. T. Jones, F. Luson, A. S. Miller, R. Shide, J. H. Sedwick, J. D. Sevringhaus, W. A. Taulby.

INDIANA. T. F. Blakely, J. Basset, J. Davis, W. M. Williams.

KENTUCKY. H. F. Albright, S. C. Alexander, R. Brent, C. H. Dobbs, I. J. Long, E. McHair, J. Madden, R. C. Nourse, D. Upthegrove, J. N. Woodruff, W. Wiley, J. M. Crawford.

TENNESSEE. H. F. Bone, J. G. Boydston, A. Burroughs, A. Cox, O. Carpenter, J. L. Cooper, E. A. Foster, W. P. Gillespie, J. F. Gracy, J. B. Russell, J. B. Roach, T. C. Thompson.

Mr. SEELY WOOD, Superintendent, reports :

ONE hundred and forty-eight colporteurs, including forty students during their vacations, have been employed in the field occupied by this agency the past year : namely, in Ohio 47, Indiana 22, Kentucky 34, Tennessee 41, and North Alabama 4.

They have performed in the aggregate 45 years, 2 months, and 17 days' labor ; visited 80,785 families, of whom 10,126 habitually neglected attendance upon evangelical preaching, 6,171 were not in possession of any religious books except the Bible, and 4,443 were destitute of that. Thirty-five thousand five hundred and ninety families were conversed with on personal religion or prayed with, and about one-thirteenth of all the families visited were Romanists.

The circulation of publications by colporteurs and from the depository, during the year, is about 128,000 volumes, besides tracts. Including \$1,223 14, received at the depository for the Messenger and Child's Paper, \$25,913 have been received for publications sold, and \$4,854 94 worth have been granted to the destitute through colporteurs and from the depository. We have also remitted \$801 28 in donations, in addition to donations collected and reported by general agents. The sale and circulation of publications exceeds that of the previous year on the same field more than \$4,000. It is gratifying to find that we have made some advance on the previous year, and we hope that with the return of general prosperity throughout the country the circulation of books will be increased.

"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that." In the routine of official duties, in keeping what may be termed the machinery or wheels in motion, both at the Society's house in the issuing of its publications and at its different agencies, in keeping the ranks of colporteurs filled up, attending to the supplies of books, and other duties connected with the supervision of the work, we often lose sight of the spiritual power of colportage : that each publication contains a message of God's truth for the soul, that we are in the path of scriptural duty in sowing the good seed of the word morning and evening year after year, that the publications are borne by the hands of Christian men, that they are often selected for their special adaption to the individuals who receive them, and given with an earnest request that the reader will heed the solemn message contained therein ; also that the seed thus sown is watered with the prayers and tears of an earnest Christian soldier who labors not for the meat that perisheth. Could we properly group before our minds the visitation of from 80,000 to 100,000 families by nearly 150 colporteurs, the personal conversation and prayer with them, the numbers kindly persuaded to attend the sanctuary of God or drawn to the Sabbath-school, the convictions produced by the reading of the publications distributed, the Christian hopes strengthened, the zeal

animated, and new determinations formed to turn from sin and live to God, we should be greatly encouraged to sow beside all waters ; and as multitudes are annually swept off from the stage of action, and since the organization of the Society a whole generation have passed from time to eternity, whose places are rapidly filled up by others in our ever-increasing population, we should make diligent use of the present moment to guide them in the way of eternal life.

The statements of a few colporteurs laboring in different portions of the country will sufficiently illustrate the practical working and necessity of colportage on this field.

One colporteur laboring in Tennessee writes, "Family visitation is an important feature of my work, in which I feel my weakness and delinquency more than any thing else, yet I am sometimes enabled to speak a word for Christ, especially when sickness or death has come into a family. Some of my most serious, pleasant, and I hope profitable labors have been in the chamber of sickness and death. When circumstances would permit, I have labored in social prayer-meetings, the temperance cause ; and in the distribution of publications, have sought to promote a better observance of the Sabbath and family worship. I often find poor widows and orphans who seldom attend church, and are poorly supplied with religious reading. Some of them are induced to make small purchases, and when there is no means of purchasing, I of course make liberal grants. It was said of Christ, the common people heard him gladly, and this is true in a measure of the humble colporteur. In the humble walks of life, on the mountain's top, or in the valleys, far away from the bustle and vain show of wealth and fashion, I expect to be most useful. Then the colporteur can preach from house to house personally and through his books, though there are many families in the most favored portions of his field which also need his labors.

"A widow woman remembered with gratitude my visit five years previous, at which time her husband purchased a Bible and Baxter's Call. After this the husband became sick and died. During his protracted illness, the Call was his constant companion, preaching Christ with such unction that before he died he found peace in believing. The book was also read to several thoughtless young persons who visited him, and they also became subjects of renewing grace, and publicly professed Christ."

A colporteur laboring in one of the mountainous districts of Kentucky writes, "In visiting 71 families in succession, 24 of them were found destitute of the Bible, and without any religious book ; and of

these 24 families, eight or ten were professors of religion. In each house one or more persons could read, but in many cases did not know the difference between a Bible and other religious books, hence would ask, Which of these books did you say was the Bible? Thirty-one of the other families, whom I found to have either a Bible or a Testament, had no other religious book. There is but little preaching in this county, and you may judge of the character of some of it by a remark of one of the preachers, who cannot read much, and never had an opportunity of learning much. He said, 'My principal difficulty is, not so much in finding a particular text, but how to explain a text after I have found it. A commentary is the book I would like to have, rather than a text-book.' In one family visited I found the mother sick, that she had been ill about fifteen years, and at this time had been confined to her bed more than a year and a half. She was a professor of religion, and these long severe afflictions and sore trials were to her faith what fire is to gold. Offering to sell her Bibles and other good books, she said, 'Sir, I want a Bible very much, as I am often well enough to read, though not to sit up; but I have no money, and my husband would never buy me a book. We are poor, yet he might have purchased me a Bible, rather than other things which we can do without better than a Bible. He cannot read, and knows not any thing about the pleasure of reading, and takes no interest in any of our children reading; but in his absence from home I sent my eldest child to school three months, and she can read.' I gave her the Afflicted Man's Companion, Christian Progress, also a Bible on the account of a county Bible Society. Soon after her husband returned home, and seeing the books, said he would pay for them at a future time. I entered into conversation with him on personal religion and the education of his children, and he promised to send six of them to school."

A colporteur laboring in Indiana writes, "During the past winter there have been four revivals of religion on the field which I occupy. They occurred in neighborhoods where there never has been much regular preaching, though they have been settled more than ten years. A year ago last winter I circulated books and tracts among them by sale and gift, and in the spring persuaded them to start a Sabbath-school, which they kept in operation until winter. When the Sabbath-school closed, feeling that they had no religious privileges on the Sabbath, they occasionally invited evangelical ministers to preach in their school-houses, and the result has been the hopeful conversion of not less than fifty persons, the most of whom are heads of families."

Another colporteur in the same state writes, "Many individuals who have been in the habit of devoting the Sabbath to hunting, fishing, or doing errands, have, through the influence of colporteur labor, and the books and tracts furnished them, been induced to give up the practice and attend the sanctuary. Ministers inform me that many of those who have recently made a public profession of religion in their congregations, date their first serious convictions to the reading of the Call to the Unconverted, the Alarm, or some other one of the Society's publications which have been distributed on this field. These instances have become much more numerous the past year than any preceding year of my labors."

A colporteur laboring in the central part of Ohio writes, "I entered on the colporteur work with much fear and trembling, feeling deeply the responsibility and importance of it; but I trust I can say the love of Christ constrained me, and the manifestations of divine grace which impelled me to go forward in it have been abundantly blessed, not only to my own soul, but I fully believe, to the souls of many whom I have visited. I have been received with the greatest kindness by all Christians, and also by the ungodly. During the seven months of my agency I have visited 3,127 families, conversed and prayed with 2,030, sold 2,160 books, and granted about 40,000 pages, tracts and books.

"In one neighborhood visited, the number of Sabbath-school scholars was nearly doubled in connection with our colporteur efforts, and subsequently there was a revival of religion in the place, which resulted in the addition of forty members to one church, and seventeen to another. A minister of the place writes me, 'From what I have learned, the books and tracts distributed here by you have done much good in promoting the work of God in this place.' A man called on me in much distress of mind on account of the depraved life he had lived, stating that he had been frequently on his knees, and desired that I would give him a book that would induce him to lead a new life. I gave him Baxter's Call, and directed his mind to that Saviour who is always willing to hear the cry of the penitent sinner, and have reason to believe that it has been blessed to his soul. A poor man to whom I gave some tracts and books for himself and family, expressed much gratitude, and on my visiting him again, assured me that he valued them highly. He had formerly been addicted to intemperance, but now regularly attended preaching and the prayer-meetings.

"A poor widow woman, having a family of six children, was found

residing in a small cabin so far away from any school that the education of her children had been greatly neglected. No place of worship was attended, and no one called to inquire after their spiritual interests. It was a great pleasure to see with what delight she listened to me, and expressed her thanks for the books and tracts I left, regretting her inability to purchase. Scarce a book of any description was found in this abode of poverty, and I could not but bless God that he had made me the Society's humble messenger in distributing the bread of life to such famishing souls.

"I have visited many log-cabins in secluded spots where no books are circulated except by the colporteur, where no church-going bell has ever been heard, and the Sabbath is spent as the other days of the week."

Mr. DE LAVERGNE, who has performed an exploring service of two or three years, principally in the mountainous regions of Tennessee and Kentucky, writes, "This service has given me an extensive acquaintance with the more remote and unevangelized portions of the country. In these destitute portions I have been impressed with the fact, that while there are numerous ministers at work, the ministry is not seconded by an active church-membership, is not aided by efficient family and Sabbath-school instruction, is not sustained and supplemented by religious knowledge generally diffused among the people, and stands alone in supplying all the religious instruction the people have.

"In one county visited by a colporteur, containing over 400 families, only 23 had any religious reading. There was but one sabbath-school, and outside of the county town, but five newspapers of any description were taken in the county. In visiting 4,300 families, in three counties, but 500 possessed any religious reading, leaving 3,800 destitute of this most important aid to preaching and to piety. I have been frequently and forcibly struck with the fact that in these circumstances the ministry, standing alone, uneducated, and largely secularized, has often failed to effect those permanent changes in the community which might be expected. In many cases society remains upon its ancient foundations of ignorance and prejudice, and retains the same hostile attitude to every progressive movement. In some parts, a really philanthropic effort to obtain the patronage of a county for the introduction of railroads is met by almost mob violence, and in other places the wires of the telegraph are destroyed for miles, because of their supposed connection with a prevailing drought.

"The colporteur system of the American Tract Society has supplied, in these destitute regions, an almost indispensable adjunct to the moral appliances of the country; and my impressions are clear and convincing that it has afforded a *vital element* of evangelization which was needed to effect, in conjunction with other existing agencies, a change in the face of society and the prospects of the people. Truly evangelical publications, possessing at the same time the highest literary character, striking, adapted, and teaching by example; and these accompanied by earnest and self-sacrificing personal effort, publicly and from house to house, alone and in concert with other instrumentalities—*vital truth and living Christian example* brought into close and continued contact with all the people—have had the effect to reach the common mind, and drive it from its narrow circle where it has revolved from generation to generation.

"In several destitute counties a colporteur agency of three years' continuance has resulted in a general waking up of the people. Sabbath and secular schools were multiplied, neat and commodious church edifices were erected, and revivals of religion occurred. In one field, I can never forget the very earnest and decided tone in which some of the most intelligent persons spoke to me with reference to obtaining another colporteur. Their language was, *WE MUST HAVE ANOTHER COLPORTEUR, OR ALL WILL BE LOST.* An efficient colporteur was secured, and among other gratifying facts it appeared that the sale of the strictly spiritual classics of the Society in this uncultivated and mountain field, was triple that of the preceding agency, going up to fifty, and even eighty dollars a month. Some intelligent persons on the field, being gratified by the results of the work, contributed a handsome sum to the funds of the Society.

"A minister told me that after being fourteen years in the church, he bought and read 'Religion and Eternal Life,' brought him by a colporteur; and that while he read its delineations of true piety, he saw that if that were religion, he certainly did not possess it. He abandoned his hope, sought a better, and gave himself to the work of the ministry. 'That the soul be without knowledge, it is not good.'

"Again, nothing is more striking and sad in all these dreary regions of destitution under review, than the *almost total neglect of the proper training of the young.* Whole generations of children, deprived of all religious restraint and intellectual culture, grow up to reproduce the dissolute manners and vicious habits of the country—to oppose the progress of the gospel, or fill the church with 'wood, hay, and stubble.' To such a state of things, how admirably adapted is the colporteur system, with the excellent works of the Society, its attractive juveniles, including The Child's Paper, and its portrayures of youthful piety as well as the more didactic works on family government. All these we are putting extensively, and in a large measure gratuitously, into the hands of both parents and children in these 'ends of the earth.' What mind but must feel the momentous importance of a work of this nature. I recollect with pleasure an incident in illustration. I had spent a night with a gentleman in the mountain district of Tennessee. He was wealthy, had a large family, but could not read; and although more than sixty years of age, still persisted in riding his own horse in the race. In the morning, while sitting with him on the porch, I read aloud Abbott's Child at Home: I recollect distinctly the remarks which he made to me; he deplored his own ignorance, said he got along very well, so long as he kept within his own farm-fence, but when he attempted to converse on general topics, *he felt like a bag of straw that needed to be held up.* Then he added that he wished his children educated, and their training to be different from his own, and observing that 'that book could give his children better instruction than he was capable of doing,' he bought it with a number of others, sufficient to make a little library for his family.

"In conclusion, we are able to state that, notwithstanding the common complaint that the 'laborers are few,' this exploring service has resulted in calling out a large number of colporteurs, within the last two years not less than thirty, and that they are now actively employed in those needy and neglected fields, where their labors are so much needed, and are attended with so much interest. And when it is remembered that these fields of destitution throughout the country are very large, that the class of population embraced by them is very numerous, comprising not far from half of all the inhabitants of our boasted land, the work in which we are engaged assumes an imposing character, and one that must commend itself to every Christian heart."

The Rev. SHEPARD WELLS, General Agent for Tennessee, and who has extended his labors west and south of that state, dates his annual report from Arkansas, where he was then laboring. He says :

At the close of another year's labor you find me in this southwestern field, exploring and opening new fields of labor hitherto unattempted by any general agent of your Society. Last year I passed through the state to its western borders, placing colporteurs in seven of its counties west of the Arkansas river.

I then entered the *Cherokee nation*, where I found a whole tribe of Indians prepared by schools and missions for the benefits of colportage. The chief, JOHN ROSS, Esq., and his people received me most cordially, gave some \$400 to support two colporteurs, sons of missionaries, who have entered on their work with cheering results. Four different denominations had gathered 3,000 members into their churches, out of 25,000 of its population. Schools and academies for the last fifteen years had prepared the way for books, but your Society was the first to furnish them with reading matter. Greatly do the chief and his people rejoice in the benefits which the diffusion of your publications are conferring upon them. I found two Indians who had been converted by reading Nelson's "Cause and Cure of Infidelity."

Returning to Tennessee after an absence of three months, I devoted several weeks to visiting our colleges, and sending out theological students to labor, during their vacations, as colporteurs in Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Alabama. So large was the number who volunteered, and so small our supply of books, that much of my time during the summer was given to them, to secure their success and usefulness. In the fall I attended two presbyteries and two synods, in Middle and West Tennessee, at which I made addresses and secured valuable results for the cause. My collections for the year have been over \$3,000, not including over \$500 for books sold as an incidental part of my work, or \$313 remitted for the Messenger and The Child's

Paper. I have travelled some 10,000 miles during the year, preaching usually two and three times on the Sabbath, and frequently during the week.

It has been a year of laborious toil, many exposures to life and health in travelling ; yet God has not only kept me from sickness and harm, but given signal success. Some thirty new men have been commissioned during the year, which is double the number of any previous year. The contributions have increased, and an abiding interest is manifested in the success of colportage as a means of indispensable usefulness for the South-west.

Tennessee, 600 miles long and 125 broad, with its dense population, has been greatly benefited during the past ten years by colporteur labor ; still there are many dark places, and a great work before your Society. It is rapidly developing at this time with its railroads, schools, and colleges, and will ere long be a grateful and liberal contributor to the Society which is now doing so much for it.

Arkansas, of all the states in the Union, has been the most neglected, and yet the most needy. Its destitution of schools, preaching, Bibles, and books is very great. Citizens who are not members of any church, hail the advent of colportage as a bright omen for good, and cheerfully contribute for its support. Even Roman-catholics have given to the object. So far I have found good men to engage as colporteurs, wherever I have visited. In a few years railroads will open the way of access where now travelling is very difficult, and means of communication with the rest of the states and with themselves exceedingly limited. I have never found a state where colportage was calculated to accomplish more immediate and ultimate good, or to be received more kindly by the majority of the people. The exceeding richness of the cotton lands of Arkansas is drawing to it a large amount of emigration and capital from other states. This with its vast mineral resources will make it a great state. It is larger by 700 square miles than the state of New York.

Yet one third of its inhabitants are without a Bible, and two thirds have no religious books. These are estimates by those who have long been in the state, and are well qualified to judge. Whole counties and sections of country have never been supplied with the Bible. Truly its moral wastes call for colportage, and every other means of grace. Your Society have a great work to do here, and every encouragement to prosecute it with vigor.

My work is *pioneer*, peculiarly in its character. Its value must be in securing good men to cultivate this needy and destitute field, while

I leave no means untried to increase the benevolence of the people towards the object.

It is a cause of thanksgiving to God, that I have during the past year received great hospitality from private families and public houses, have been carried free of charge on many steam-boats and stages, have been in the saddle for weeks together without cost to the Society, leading men of influence having taken special pains to introduce me, and forward the work.

The future of colportage on my field looks promising, and full of encouragement and usefulness, and I enter on another year's labor with more hopes of success, than during any one of the last eleven years I have labored in the South.

May the Lord bless and prosper your noble institution, and give me wisdom, grace, and fidelity to discharge my duties with acceptance to God, and great good to the people.

REV. FRANKLIN MAGINNIS, General Agent in Ohio, reports :

In ten and a half months I have visited 92 different churches and preached 143 sermons, besides occasional addresses. Aside from donations which have passed from this field through other agencies, or that have been forwarded to the Society directly by the donors, I have collected \$1,631 11, and have still in my hands some subscriptions yet uncollected. The general work of the American Tract Society I believe has been prosecuted on this field during the year with perhaps more than usual success, and more than usual evidences of the usefulness and importance of the whole enterprise.

It is certain that our own destitutions and necessities are becoming more and more apparent. The extensive circulation of a fictitious and infidel literature among the families on this field, is having the effect to lead reflecting Christians generally to a higher appreciation of our publications, and the importance of their extensive circulation. The feeling is fast becoming both general and intense, that we *must* preoccupy the minds of the rising youth of our country with a literature of a decidedly Christian character, as one of the indispensable means of their salvation. Then the sparseness of our population in country settlements, the heterogeneous character of the people, the diverse languages spoken by them, their different religious preferences and denominational adherence, all, in combination with the natural aversion to all religion and the erratic proclivities of common depravity, operate to deprive at least two-thirds of our entire population of the benefit of stated evangelical ordinances.

Our supply of ordained ministers is so inadequate that many organized churches still remain destitute of pastors, and must evidently continue so until God in his good providence shall send forth more laborers into his harvest. To me it seems more evident than ever before, that divine Providence intends to call forth a host of laymen to go out as helpers and coworkers with ministers in the work of evangelization, and by evangelical publications, borne by evangelical colporteurs, convey the gospel and freely offer it to the multitudes that desire not a knowledge of the way of life. Rom. 3:11.

One of our worthy pastors, in response to the appeal which had just been made to his people in behalf of this cause, remarked, "We have no occasion to regret our former contributions to this cause, but rather feel *astonished* with what has been accomplished. Verily, what hath God wrought!"

We trust also that good fruits already produced on this field may be presented as evidence of the effective working of the system. Rev. Mr. ——— remarked, "When I was a pastor I proposed to the American Tract Society, that if they would furnish books I would perform the duties of a colporteur in my own congregation without charge. They soon forwarded me a box of books, which I began immediately to distribute. In a few weeks from this time, I found myself in the midst of one of the most glorious revivals of religion that my people ever experienced."

The prisoners in our state-prison were recently visited, in the course of tract distribution. Soon after this, I called on the chaplain to inquire what were likely to be the results. "*Results*," said he, "have you not heard of the results? I have just baptized seventeen of the prisoners." I learn also that three others have since indulged hope. One of these prisoners refused the tract that was offered, but when he noticed the confusion and distress of the lady that offered it, his heart was touched with tenderness and his soul continued sorrowful. In a few days he came to the chaplain in great distress of mind, saying that a lady had visited him in the midst of his degradation and wretchedness, and in kindness offered him a tract, "*but I was so vile as to refuse it*." Soon after he indulged Christian hope, his term of confinement expired, and being set at liberty, he traversed the streets of the city, inquiring for the good lady that had offered the tract. Though he did not find her, he found her dwelling, and called for a writing-table and wrote, requesting her never to be discouraged when any one refused a tract, for it was the tract he refused that had been blessed to his conversion. Thus we are encouraged

to sow beside all waters, looking to God for his blessing, that may secure great results from small means, even when employed under the most discouraging circumstances. Such incidents are precious illustrations of the propriety of the divine injunction, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not which shall prosper, either this or that."

An individual came to me one Sabbath, after I had presented the Tract cause, and said with deep emotion, "It was the *caption* of one of your tracts that first awakened me to serious reflection, 'Don't Put It Off.'" Being to me a stranger, I sought his acquaintance, and learned that he had then indulged hope for several months. He has since made a public profession of faith in Christ.

Thus God seems especially to delight in honoring *simple* means and feeble instrumentalities. The gospel is committed to *earthen vessels*, that are in themselves frail and easily broken, so that the excellency of the power may appear evidently to be of God. Our entire system of instrumentalities, therefore, we may regard as both a soul-saving and God-honoring system. To God be all the glory.

There is much to be done on this field. Indeed, we may say that comparatively very little has yet been done to develop its resources, or to explore and supply its destitutions, and to save its perishing thousands. I am happy to say that the number of churches that coöperate is larger the last year than the previous. The number of *contributors* is largely increased.

During a part of the year I was much prospered in procuring colporteurs, and have succeeded in introducing nine of these laborers for commission. I feel not only encouraged but truly grateful, first of all to God, the giver of every good, and second to my brethren both of the ministry and the churches of this field, for the cordial reception and Christian hospitality which I have everywhere received among them. To you also for your sympathy in affliction, your counsel in labor, and kind forbearance with all my insufficiency for this great work.

Rev. S. WARREN, General Agent in Northern Ohio, reports :

I have preached or lectured on an average twice each Sabbath during the year, visiting personally upwards of one hundred different churches, receiving in donations \$3,580 30; for Messenger and Child's Paper, \$188 66; for publications sold, \$186 89; and distributing gratuitously \$52 08 worth of books and tracts, 78,120 pages. About \$720 has been paid into the treasury through other hands, making the amount of donations from this field during the year about \$4,300.

In reviewing the Colporteur work on my field, I have noted several points of special interest and encouragement, which I am happy in being able to illustrate by facts from letters recently received.

The publications of the Society have certainly been blessed in their influence upon individual Christians. Scattered by thousands in the homes of the people, they have proved spiritual food and strength to God's chosen ones. The ignorant have been instructed, the back-slidden quickened, the doubting confirmed, and those appointed unto death aided in preparing for that great change.

" 'Here, Jane,' said a dying mother, 'here is the last book I bought of the colporteur, and it seems as if God in his providence sent it to prepare me more fully for this hour. Yes, I shall praise Him in eternity for the strength and spiritual life obtained in reading these pages. I have marked some of them, which I wish you to read when I am gone. . . . Oh, Jane, be a Bible Christian; and in order to be one, I know of no better help than this book.' "

"I met a lady," writes the same colporteur, "to whom I had sold 'It is I.' She has been a church-member for years. She said, 'I have read and reread that little book with great profit; truly it has been light to my understanding, and food to my soul. I hope I shall never more indulge a gloomy, doubting frame of mind.' A gentleman of intelligence remarked to me, that though he had long desired and tried to be a Christian; it had ever remained a matter of doubt whether he had believed in Christ to the saving of his soul—he dared not say he was a Christian; but since he had bought of me and read Alleine's 'Heaven Opened,' he had a hope in Christ, a settled peace, which he dared not doubt."

"I inquired of a poor family that had invited me to share their meal," writes another colporteur, "what good books they had. They had a Testament, and 'another mighty good book,' which they bought years ago, and prized very highly. 'Husband,' said the wife, 'you have learned it by heart almost.' 'I believe I have read it a hundred times,' said he, 'and it always seems new—it has told us so much about the good way.' This useful and beloved book was a copy of 'Precept upon Precept.' "

Roman-catholics have been interested in the truth, and led to Christ. The idea often expressed, that "it is of no use to labor among Roman-catholics," is opposed to both the word and providence of God. The human heart, diseased by sin and enslaved by Satan, is the same in all places, and under all names—the same in its deep and irrepressible wants; and the gospel, with its living, loving Sav-

iour, is the same among all classes of convicted sinners in its matchless adaptation to meet those pressing wants of the awakened soul. Even those Irish Romanists are hopeful subjects to work with, if you only have enough of the spirit of the gospel in your own heart. But undoubtedly it requires no ordinary degree of that wisdom which is from above to win these children of error to the Saviour. Many of the Tract Society's publications are admirably fitted to aid in doing this.

"A Romanist recently told me," writes one of our colporteurs, "that she had not been to the confessional since I gave her some tracts last year. When the priest threatened her, and asked her how she expected to be forgiven and saved without confession, she said, 'By going to God through Jesus Christ.' 'But you are too ignorant,' said the priest. 'And *you* have held me in ignorance,' was her reply. I gave her a New Testament, a copy of which she had never before taken in her hands. I gave 'The Way to be Saved' to a Roman-catholic woman, who read it, and declared it had done her more good than all her confessions to the priest; 'for,' said she, 'while it has shown me that I am a sinner of the deepest dye, it has also pointed out to me the way of pardon and eternal salvation.'

Scepticism and infidelity have been counteracted. Says one of the colporteur brethren, "The sceptic and infidel, denying a part or the whole of the sacred volume, I frequently encounter, with their railing accusations against the Christian religion. I sometimes try in a calm manner to show them their error, and convince them of the truth of the Bible; but generally I have thought it best not to say much. I have almost invariably succeeded in selling them something adapted to their case; and to their honor be it spoken, I have frequently enjoyed their hospitality without charge."

"A gentleman crossed the street," writes another, "to purchase of me a copy of Nelson on Infidelity. 'All sold,' was the reply. He seemed surprised, and remarked, 'Well, this is an unexpected mark of progress in the right direction in this community.' About the time I began my work as a colporteur, two years ago, a man brought more than a thousand dollars' worth of infidel books to this city for circulation, but he has been disappointed in the demand for them. One day this man said to me, 'I have a book you would not *dare* to read.' 'Why not?' 'Because it overturns your belief.' 'I would not be afraid to read it, did I not think it a waste of time.' 'You think all the world will finally come to your belief,' said he. I told him I believed the truth of God, as taught in the holy Scriptures,

would finally triumph throughout the world. 'That is what I expect for my belief,' said he; 'you and Mrs. — think you are right, and I think I am right.' 'We hope,' said I, 'to see you become a Christian. If you are right, we shall suffer no loss; but if we are right, how will it be with you?' He politely turned the subject aside."

This work has aided the pastor, the Sabbath-school, and all truly Christian instrumentalities. If this were not sufficiently evident from the nature of the work and the facts already given, it might be proved by the unsolicited testimony of evangelical workers of every class and name. How often during the past year have the friends of Christ in different places expressed to me their obligations to the Tract Society as a means of strengthening every good influence within and around them. Perhaps a brief extract from a colporteur's letter, giving his own view of his mission, may be in place here. He wrote as follows a few months after entering upon his work: "I feel that I can do nothing; but it seems as if the set time to favor this field had come. All things are working together for good. And I rejoice in the hope that the great Head of the church has indeed called me into the work—especially to carry the printed gospel to the poor. May the Lord make me faithful in so doing. May He teach me in meekness, love, and candor too, to seek to move the minds and hearts of those in high places who have been sitting under the sound of the gospel from their childhood, but are yet unconverted. If the Sabbath-schools may be replenished, the evangelical congregations increased, the pastor's hands held up and their hearts encouraged—and of all this there seems to be the leaf, with signs of growth—if this is my work to which I am called of God, I will seek to hide still deeper beneath the cross, and with cheerful feet tread all the path a kind Providence may mark out. With my eye steadily fixed above upon the glory of God, I will sing,

"This work shall make my heart rejoice,
And spend the remnant of my days.'"

Who can doubt the good influence of private Christians of such a spirit circulating everywhere, by sale or gift, such publications as the American Tract Society is issuing? Every evangelical agency must be strengthened by such a work done in such a spirit.

CHICAGO AGENCY.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS, NORTHERN INDIANA, MICHIGAN,
WISCONSIN, AND MINNESOTA.

NO. 69 STATE-STREET, CHICAGO.

SUPERINTENDENT.—REV. YATES HICKEY. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.—MR. W. Y. JOHNSON. GENERAL AGENTS.—REV. A. MONTGOMERY and REV. THOS. WRIGHT.

COLPORTEURS.—NORTHERN ILLINOIS. J. C. Dumser, R. F. Dodge, J. A. Frank, J. Jones, I. V. Kellogg, E. Kellogg, G. F. Mayer, J. W. Osborne, D. H. Palmer, A. Woehr. *Students*—J. A. De Hague, L. H. Norem.

NORTHERN INDIANA. J. H. Leipke, T. Nixon.

MICHIGAN. E. E. Cochran, D. R. Dixon, E. C. Denison, I. Goodrich, N. Hoffman, W. N. Lewis, W. Norton, W. McMechan, G. Rosser, A. Saunders, A. Silberhorn. *Students*—L. M. Gates, J. D. Parker, J. Richards.

WISCONSIN. P. Asburnson, J. B. Barney, J. G. Dailey, J. A. Jones, J. Karcher, J. A. Kandiba, S. McMellen, J. Olin, J. C. Roberts, L. Schmidt, T. Theall, F. Wartmen, F. Weihe, P. Yoss. *Students*—P. Jorris, D. S. Truckenmiller.

Rev. YATES HICKEY, General Agent and Superintendent, reports :

I have not yet so thorough a knowledge of the North-west as I desire and aim to secure ; but enough has been gathered already to fill the heart full of desires that more may be done, and that the best means of doing it may be successfully employed.

It is good to feel that we are sustained by the fervent prayers, the cordial sympathy, and the cheerful and liberal benefactions of our eastern friends. Let them remember that those who water others shall themselves be watered, and that soon the North-west will in turn do its part in giving the gospel to those who are in the regions beyond. Eastern capitalists make investments here for large interest, and get it. Let not the servants of the Lord be less ready to invest on such security and with such increase as God in his word offers. Luke 6 : 38.

Men there are, and means are multiplying, to carry forward this benevolent enterprise till all the people shall be blessed by an intelligent Christian visit, and offered the issues of the evangelical press at least annually. But to find the men and introduce them in the best way to the work, and secure to them the greatest advantages and best aids to prosecute it with true economy and efficiency, requires self-denying fidelity and ceaseless vigilance. The work cannot stand still. Colportage will be carried forward in answer to prayer, and under the guidance of that wisdom which is "profitable to direct ;" or, for the want of these, it will die out. The work is the Lord's, and vain would be the attempt to carry it forward on any other plan,

or on any other principles than those which recognize his holy providence, and entire dependence on his grace and Spirit. Our success will be bounded only by our shortcomings. It will be *unbounded*, if God be sought unto with the whole heart, and we work in the mind of Christ.

In every large community in the North-west, God has a seed to serve him. This is an encouraging feature, and colportage has this peculiar benevolent characteristic, that it makes its drafts from the people it aims to bless, and finds its laborers best adapted to the communities where they are best known and most acquainted. It is in this, and many other respects, a work of religious development. There is much of moral heroism in the north-west. Here and there, sparkling among the sordid delvers for mere wealth, as the pure metal shines among the earth-covered ore, are to be found those who labor hard and sacrifice much, and enjoy much in sacrificing in the name of Christ for the masses of heedless, reckless, rushing gatherers of that which satisfieth not. There are in this city and other cities, and almost every part of the country, some hard workers, both men and women, in the vineyard of the Lord, and among all such, in the city and the country, the Tract Society is regarded as a providential and most blessed instrumentality to strengthen the hands of Christians, and carry forward the work of the Redeemer.

I need not tell you that here many are making criminal haste to be rich; but I rejoice to see so precious a leaven of those who are practically benevolent, working and giving Christians, who are laying up treasures in heaven, and endeavoring, yea, are unceasing in efforts to draw others with them. Oh, that this blessed leaven may rapidly leaven the whole lump! And may we not hope that from such a spirit of labor, and such a liberality, we may soon cover this broad field with devoted and intelligent laborers, sustained by those who are here and know the wants of the masses and have the means of supply? Such is our aim, and unless we deceive ourselves, we may claim God's encouragement.

The population of this field is in many districts amazingly heterogeneous, and two or three sets of laborers for the different classes and tongues, are in many cases necessary to secure thorough work; but the whole people are wonderfully accessible by this simple and humble agency, which we are aiming to bring to bear with more and more directness in a system of exploration and supply by which the remotest families may be reached. Grants must continue large, if our work is to be well and thoroughly done. Sales will increase as the

people become settled ; the area of a well-settled and a self-sustaining territory will be extended from month to month, as will also the bounds of our fields of missionary labor for the destitute. The capabilities of this field are very great, and its physical development rapid : will the friends of colportage, and other kindred enterprises, do what they can at the command of Christ, and under his blessing, that it be soon subdued to him ; or will they recklessly and criminally leave the work in the hands of those who preach and hear "another gospel," and are blessed by none ? In these endeavors it is our high privilege to coöperate with devoted pastors and missionaries and active Christians. They have a great work to do ; and while they often have occasion to say, "What are we among so many?" it is a common feeling which is expressed by a good brother, who says in a friendly letter, "I feel that I can accomplish *comparatively* little in preaching, without the help of the Tract Society's publications."

The contest is sharp and active between error and truth, the emissaries of Satan and the followers of Christ, and no effort should be spared to place this agency in the best available condition possible.

The past of this agency is written in much good done, and many efforts to reach and benefit the incoming and wide-spread people of all nations. It is to be regretted that the experience and active coöperation of my predecessors here, the Rev. A. Montgomery and Mr. W. Y. Johnson, should be withdrawn from the field. Their continued counsel and coöperation might have done much to help forward the work. In other spheres of usefulness, in which we pray for their success, they will have opportunities to evince the continuance of their long-cherished love for the tract cause.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

The year opened with only 17 colporteurs on the whole field. To this number 28 have been added, 7 of whom were students, and 21 permanent and efficient men for our American, German, French, Welsh, Swedish, and Norwegian people : 45 colporteurs have labored on the field the whole or part of the year ; 32 are now actively engaged, and several candidates are at work on trial.

The amount of donations received by me in about ten months is \$1,386 23, and \$1,200 in legacies ; also \$150, special donations from liberal patrons to relieve two of my brethren who were in distress from sickness in their families, and the loss of their horses. Our sales from the depository, aside from the supply of colporteurs,

amount to \$2,292 90, and grants \$449 20 to missionaries, the city society, to literary associations and various libraries, to city and county prisons, for loan libraries, etc., from a portion of which we have heard the most encouraging reports of usefulness. Our receipts for the American Messenger, English and German, and The Child's Paper, are \$790 21—a large portion of which is from the "Chicago City Tract and Missionary Society," now doing a good work for the needy of the metropolis, *where so much can be done* for the north-west by caring for the multitudes who come, and go forth to inhabit the country in every direction. We hope soon to arrange plans for greatly increasing the circulation of these precious papers. The sales by colporteurs have been \$8,466 43, and grants \$1,803 49. Thus 43,038 volumes have been sold, and 11,262 given to the needy, by means of this agency during the year. Fourfold this amount would be nearer what ought to be done, and what we hope soon to do, and then to *follow up* the progress of the country with the needful supply. Nay, we should *go before* and forestall the enemy at every point, placing the truth in full armor to ward off the attack and for ever to defend.

As was well suggested by Rev. Mr. Montgomery, in his report from this field two years ago, the thoroughfares of the west are constructed and at present mainly employed for filling up the country, building towns, and creating a commerce, instead of merely furnishing the conveniences of trade and travel between large cities and through a densely peopled country, as is the case east. Hence the great importance of sending the leaven of the gospel in good books and the living examples of good men with all the freights of men and merchandise which go to every nook and corner of the land. Every fibre of organizing society should be inwoven with the truth, in the attractive forms in which it is now presented in our invaluable publications. *This can be done*, and God is putting it into the hearts of lumber merchants and the workers of mines, and conductors of railroad and steamboat companies, to desire to use the blessed and simple agency of the Tract Society for the benefit of the men in their employ, and the people made accessible by their "lines." If we are backward in improving these openings for extensive usefulness, when facilities are so marked and so providential, and returns of good are so manifest and cheering, the Lord's people will observe our delinquency, and He will hold us responsible. Let none fail to pray for and help us, that these high trusts be not abused or neglected.

AGENCY IN MICHIGAN.

The Rev. THOMAS WRIGHT, my associate as General Agent in Michigan and Northern Indiana, located at Ypsilanti, is successfully prosecuting his work. In his last report he says, "I find Michigan, so far, a practicable and pleasant field of labor. The members of churches being mostly from New England and New York, are no strangers to the operations of our Society, and not a few are ready to coöperate in the great work which it is aiming, by the help of the Lord, to accomplish. The circulation already attained by the Messenger and Child's Paper is doubtless doing much to create and foster this interest, and I have endeavored in various places to revive and extend this means of promoting the usefulness of the Society, as well as by the free distribution of other suitable documents. In the agricultural districts, among the churches composed mostly of farmers, I find promising indications of liberality and substantial interest in our work; and yet the habit of large contributions remains to be formed. Let us hope the foundation for such a habit is now being laid.

"As a field for colportage, Michigan is becoming entitled to new and increased interest, on account of the rapid settlement which has commenced, of the new and more northern counties of the state—the fourth and fifth ranges of counties. This settlement has been quickened by the railroads opened or projected in that region, and the low prices of the public lands brought into market on the 'graduated scale.' While the three southern ranges of counties should aim to sustain entirely the expenses of colportage within their own bounds, the newer portions of the field will remain as missionary ground for some time to come."

DEPOSITORY.

Our Depository was removed in January, from 50 La Salle-street to 69 State-street, on the second floor, where we have a very accessible and convenient suite of rooms, selected with reference to economy and capacity. A prayer-meeting is held here each Thursday evening—the evening observed by all connected with this agency as a *concert of prayer* for God's blessing upon our work and the Society, and when we shall be glad to meet or to be remembered in prayer by any who desire our success.

WORK TO BE DONE.

It is my purpose to be much abroad endeavoring to promote the work in all its departments, and exploring all parts of the field,

introducing new men and cooperating with those now at work. We have to provide for the mixed population of the country—those scattered over the prairies, along the rivers, and far in the backwoods ; for the crowded foreign population of our cities, the moving multitudes upon our thoroughfares and in our harbors, for the miners north and west, and for the lumbermen of our forests. Selections from the reports of my brethren which follow will bring partially to view these several spheres of labor and usefulness, exhibiting their fidelity, and showing that God attends them in their labors and blesses their efforts in behalf of the multitudes they reach personally and by the books, tracts, and papers they distribute. Never have I loved and appreciated this noble band of Christian laborers so much as while reading their reports, from which I make the following selections ; and it is with reluctance that many additional statements are omitted—showing that it is a work of prayer, of faith, of self-denial, and that God blesses it and graciously sustains those who labor in it.

RAILROAD COLPORTAGE.

REV. J. W. O., COLPORTEUR ON THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD.—In presenting my annual report, it is with feelings of gratitude and love that I return my humble thanks to the Lord our God for the providential care and mercy with which I have been so highly favored. I have gone forth up and down this great and extensive railroad, “bearing precious seed” both by day and night, passing through all the lights and shades of railroad life, yet out of all the Lord hath brought me by his love, without any accident or the least harm. Hundreds of precious souls, both old and young, are prepared to rise up and call the American Tract Society blessed, for the gospel of Christ and the means of grace, and for the precious books supplied them, and to them endeared by so very many pleasant considerations. Hundreds of God’s dear people, scattered over this mighty land, living in some lone cot or isolated home, cut off from the voice of praise and solemn prayer and the sound of the “gospel trumpet,” have been supplied with “the leaves of the tree of life,” and to them has the holy Sabbath been a delight, a day of joy and peace. How often have persons asked for books to read on the Sabbath, who told me they lived remote from any church, and how gladly did I supply them, and with what pleasure did they receive the precious treasure to assist in the elevation of their affections to things heavenly and divine. The children especially have been cared for, and they will ever have the Society in grateful remembrance. The invariable course we have pursued has been eminently successful in securing the esteem and regard of all the ministers of the gospel and the entire community along the “line ;” so much so, that God has been glorified, his people built up in their most holy faith, and sinners brought to experience the joys of pardoning love.

To merchants, farmers, and others whose business requires them to travel often on the road, I have sold books repeatedly ; every time I meet with some of them, I sell them one or more. A gentleman not long since remarked that it would be necessary for me to bring out some bookcases with me before long, for the people

to keep their books in. The tracts offered to the passengers are well received, and I often notice that they are carefully put away in a carpet bag to take home. Some gentlemen are so much pleased with my giving small books to poor children in the cars, that they come to me and buy a book to encourage me in my work, and also to express their approbation of the doings of the Society. One man told me that Nelson's Cause and Cure of Infidelity he got from me did him more good than any book he had ever read upon the subject; and on the strength of his recommendation I sold two to gentlemen in the seat behind.

The Lord is raising us up friends, and the whole country appears interested in this great and good work. The good accomplished by this undertaking has been brought about in the following manner:

1. The preaching of the gospel in the passenger car on the track before the station-houses were built.
2. The preaching of the gospel in the station-houses after they were built.
3. The visiting the sick, and burying the dead.
4. The placing the Bible in all the station-houses for the use of the travelling public.
5. The aid and encouragement given to the building of houses of religious worship.
6. The assistance given to ministers in holding protracted meetings.
7. The very large amount of books sold and granted to all classes of people.
8. The very interesting conversations held in the cars with distinguished gentlemen in reference to our object and aim, communicating information in order to the elevation of the Society in the estimation of the learned, wise, and good.

During the three years I have labored upon this railroad, I have visited 2,557 trains of cars, travelling in them 63,047 miles, besides visiting 1,720 families along the line of the road, with 1,243 of whom I had personal religious conversation and prayer. The amount of sales has been \$1,350 49, and of grants to Sunday-schools, juvenile library societies, poor ministers of the gospel, and others, \$362 15. I have obtained 76 subscribers to the American Messenger, and 117 to The Child's Paper.

LABOR IN CHICAGO HARBOR.

REPORT OF MR. R. F. D.—When I commenced my labor as a colporteur among seamen some seven months ago, I had a great many discouragements to contend with, as no colporteur had preceded me on this field. I found seamen here generally, I might almost say invariably, not only opposed to the humiliating doctrines of the cross, and the institutions and restraints of religion, but they seemed to have imbibed a strong prejudice against all religious publications, and with a few honorable exceptions, I was everywhere treated by them with coldness, often with disrespect and unkindness, and sometimes with gross insult. Sometimes, indeed, I came very near giving up the work, or of exchanging my field of labor, when I would fall in with some Christian friend, who spoke words of kindness and encouragement. I have ever found God true to his promise, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," and so I have continued in my labor.

And now how great the contrast! Of late I have been everywhere treated with kindness, and often with a hearty welcome. Now my books and my employment are spoken of with respect, and sometimes I have obtained an acknowledgment from seamen themselves, even those who do not profess to have any part or lot in this matter, that "if any class of men more than all others needs religion, it is seamen." And I cannot but hope that through the influence of the Tract Society God is thus preparing the way, and will ere long pour out his Spirit upon this interesting class of our fellow-men. May the time soon come when the seacoasts shall give up, and "the abundance of the seas be converted unto God."

REVIVALS PROMOTED.

REPORT OF MR. W. M.—I found in a small village no religious meetings, no Sabbath-school, and but few professors, and these few discouraged. After two or three efforts, I succeeded in organizing a Sabbath-school and starting a prayer-meeting. In a few months they had preaching, and shortly afterwards the Lord's presence was felt, and they were blessed with a precious revival, the fruits of which were the conversion of about thirty persons. Afterwards I sold a number of the Family Testament and Psalms with Notes, to assist in the Sabbath-school, besides many other books. When I first visited them, it was difficult to find any door open to receive me, but now both doors and hearts are open.

ROMANISTS.

REPORT OF MR. J. G. D.—During a large portion of the last quarter, I have labored among the families that work on the railroad, of which a large portion are Roman-catholic, yet I was well received among them. Many purchased books, and when Roman-catholics purchase books, there is hope of their being read. May they read under the influence of the Holy Spirit, that the truth may have its effect on the heart and life, and they be brought to Jesus Christ.

An Irish woman told me she was a Roman-catholic. About a year ago, when she went with her husband's dinner to the railroad, she left her house open, and when she returned she found two small books lying on her table. No person was there when she returned, nor was there any appearance of any one being in her house, and it was a great mystery to her. She took up the books, looked at them, turned them over and over, then laid them down. She said she was afraid of them. Towards evening she saw the men coming home from their work, and as she was afraid they would destroy them, she put the books in her chest, and they lay there more than a week. During that time something said to her, Read those books. So she took them out and read them. The first she read was "Baxter's Call," the other, "The Village in the Mountains." "And when I read them," she said, "I felt I wanted to read them again. Sir, they are good books, sent here by—I don't know how they came here." I prayed, and the place seemed to me the gate of heaven. After prayer, she said, "That is what does my heart good." She bought some small books, and made me promise to call again. I remember about a year ago going into that house, and leaving the above-named books, with the impression, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shalt find it after many days."

DESTITUTION.

REPORT OF MR. W. N. L.—If I should give an account of the condition of my field, it would scarcely be credited; but if the incredulous would go with me and see and hear what I see and hear, like the queen of Sheba they would exclaim, "The half was not told me." Some neighborhoods are entirely without preaching or any thing of a religious character. Many are destitute of the Bible and religious books. Sabbaths are spent in fishing, hunting, gambling, and various kinds of amusements. Many have told me they have not heard preaching for two or four years. Some are disposed to attend, but do not have the opportunity. I find some slow to believe that there is a Society whose object it is to supply the destitute with books, by sale or gift, and my visit has been the first they ever received from a colporteur.

REPORT OF MR. E. E. C.—There is a great deficiency of ministerial labor. The ministers are so few, they come far short of supplying the public want. Many

neighborhoods are destitute of religious privileges altogether. Others have a sermon once in two or four weeks. The expression is often made, that were it not for the truth scattered by tracts and religious books which find their way into these secluded communities, there would be nothing to keep alive a sense of their moral obligations to God. One person who purchased of me *Baxter's Saints' Rest*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, and *Christ Knocking at the Door*, said she could now call her family together on the Sabbath, and read to them and spend its sacred hours profitably.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

REPORT OF REV. J. C. R.—The Dairyman's Daughter has been blessed to the soul of a young woman whom I visited last summer. In a neighborhood destitute of preaching, in which I labored, many religious meetings have been held this winter, and they now talk of building a church. Thus the colporteur prepares the way for the missionary, and God is glorified in the conversion of souls. A poor family where I called one morning, seemed perfectly ignorant of any relation they sustained to God. To eat and drink seemed to be their all on earth, and heaven did not enter into their thoughts. I read to them from the Testament and prayed with them, and they seemed to open the eyes of their minds to new thoughts and feelings. I supplied them with a Bible and *Baxter's Call*, and they promised to read, and pray that God would make them understand his law.

REPORT OF MR. A. W.—I sold to a young Roman-catholic man a Bible and "Nelson's Cause and Cure of Infidelity." He had some prejudices in his mind against the Tract Society. The next time I saw him, he said he liked the book all except where it says that the pope is antichrist. I talked with him on the subject, and he bought the "History of the Reformation." Afterwards I saw him again, and he pressed my hand, and said that he had found out the truth, and was now rejoicing in it. Another young man bought the "Life of Boos," in order more clearly to see how one can be converted. This book, through the grace of God, made out of a child of darkness a child of light. A superstitious Catholic woman asked me for the little book, "Farewell to Rome," in order to know the truth. By a Roman-catholic family I was received very kindly. I gave them books, as they were very poor, for which they were so thankful that they would have kissed my hand if I had permitted them. I told them that it was from the American Tract Society they received these books. A woman who has lived for a long time in this country, when I gave her a tract, said that was the first one she had ever received. A young Roman-catholic said that the book "Alleine's Alarm" was the means of awakening him, and he could see clearly the way to salvation. He rejoices now in the Saviour. He has entire confidence in our books, and bought some of me. Three Catholic families on my field have thrown off the yoke of the pope, and with it the yoke of sin, and they profess to walk in newness of life. They confessed with joy what light they had received from reading the "History of the Reformation." Another family told me that the "Testimony to the Truth" was the means of bringing them to the truth. It was joyful to hear the wife express her new views of the Saviour, and praise his name. Another person thanked me for the advice I had given her, and for the tracts which she received from me, because they had led her to Christ.

REPORT OF MR. J. G. D.—At one time I was overtaken by a storm, and the darkness of the night made me look for shelter in the first house I came to. It was a small log cabin, surrounded with heavy timber. The man told me I could

not stay, as they had no bed; but I told him I had a robe, and would provide my own bed, and he gave me permission to remain. The family retired, and as I sat alone by the fire drying my clothes, I read the ninetieth and ninety-first Psalms, and bowed the knee in prayer.

After prayer I heard a moving at the far end of the room, and in a few moments the man and his wife brought each a chair, and placed themselves one on each side of me. Silence reigned a short time. I lifted up my heart in prayer to the Lord to direct me how to speak. I told them I hoped that my being there did not disturb them. They both answered no, and in a short time the woman wished to know what I was travelling through the country for? I said that I was a colporteur of the American Tract Society, and I was visiting from house to house, and conversing with the people about their eternal welfare, and selling them books published by the Society. I opened my bag, and showed some of my books to them. They looked at them and at one another, and said they looked like good books; but, said they, "We are Roman-catholics, and do not think it right to read them." I began to fear that I might speak a word that would give offence, but I lifted up my heart in prayer to God to direct me. I remarked that the books were good, and read several of the Psalms of David, and then turned to some of the sayings of Christ in the New Testament with Notes. They listened with great attention, and wished to know if I was a priest. I said, No. They wanted to know if I was a minister. I said, No, I was a colporteur. And now we began to talk about religion. I did not want to enter into a conversation upon the different opinions of the different churches, but I conversed with them about the religion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I told them of the love of Jesus in that he died for us, and how we ought to love him and keep his commandments; and that if we did so, he would bless us here, and when we died he would take us to heaven, there to be with him for ever.

The woman looked at me; the tears began to run down her cheeks, and she exclaimed, placing her hand on her heart, "I have this long time felt something here telling me I am a sinner, and I have read my prayer-book and the 'Key of Heaven,' but still I find no peace or comfort. I remember," she continued, "when I was a little girl, that my mother took me on her knee and talked with me about the Saviour, and prayed with me; yes, prayed with me about the Saviour. My mother was a Protestant, and my father was a Roman-catholic. My mother died, and my father brought me up a Roman-catholic, and my husband is a Roman-catholic. But I feel I am a sinner." I conversed with them both about their souls, and read to them some of the promises from God's blessed word. The woman wished me to pray for her, and we all bowed down and engaged in prayer, and with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, we had access to the throne of grace. After prayer the woman talked of the goodness of the Lord to her; after which we retired to bed, committing ourselves to the care of our heavenly Father.

In the morning when I awoke, the woman was going around the room and singing that beautiful hymn, "My God, the spring of all my joys." When I got up, I joined her in singing, and after singing she said she had been married eight years, and last night was the first time prayer had been offered up in her house to God. She said God had directed me there, and she felt a happiness that she could not describe. She again placed her hand upon her heart, and said, "Now I feel happy; the load of distress is gone; praise the Lord for his goodness to me;" and we all engaged in prayer. When I was ready to start, and thanked them for their trouble, they said the Lord had paid them well. They bought several books, and I departed on my way rejoicing. Is not the above another proof of the necessity of colportage? Is it not the very thing required to find out such families? And is

not the hand of the Lord visible in all this? May the Lord preserve that family, that we may all meet in heaven at last.

REPORT OF MR. J. B. B.—Just entering as I am upon this field of labor, enough has been presented to my mind to urge me to diligence, and to convince me more clearly that every possible means of grace, and especially such as our Society employs, must be called into vigorous action by God's people.

That feature of our spiritual condition which seems first to strike the heart of the living Christian and fill his soul with sadness, is the cold, death-like stupor which pervades the professed followers of Christ. We cannot but feel that before God will abundantly pour down showers of divine grace, without which all is vain, Zion must awake. I find many who once professed before men to be followers of Christ, who have "gone back to the world," and are thus joining hands with Satan in strengthening the various forms of infidelity and scepticism which are blinding the hearts of so many. This fills my soul with sadness; yet I find such inestimable treasures in Hannah More's "Practical Piety," Nevins' "Practical Thoughts," Fuller's "Backslider," and others, that I take courage, and my heart feels relieved when I can supply such permanently with the pointed, yet loving and persuasive language of these faithful authors.

There appears in many places a kind of pretended Universalism, which often approaches to a rank infidelity, and this among intelligent and refined people. Besides those works which bear directly on these errors, we are able to scatter among such many of our interesting books; and though the colporteur or gospel minister may not be able to call their minds to eternal things without exciting prejudice, or their flying at once to their favorite refuge, yet these will in many cases be read with honesty and candor; and if we thus sow beside all waters, there may yet be some harvest.

I have ever had a tender heart towards the young, and I feel to thank the Lord for the precious gems which he has enabled the Society to place in my hands to scatter among them. A pious father, who seemed especially anxious to train his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, says, "I feel less particular in selecting for my children from the Tract Society than from other sources, for I feel perfectly safe in putting in their hands any thing from that source." A mother said to me when she saw the "Songs for the Little Ones at Home," "This is just what I have so long wanted to keep my children from learning something worse." At another place I noticed an unusual joy lighting up the countenances of the children on learning that the Tract Society's books were brought in, and eagerly surrounding me, they began to inquire for "Songs for the Little Ones." The father on coming in explained their conduct, by saying that he had long promised this book to them, and he could find nothing that would fill its place. I met a parent to whom I had sold a "Tract Primer" a few days before, who said, "The little book is well adapted to the mind of my child, and I find that older heads are not fooling away their time by reading it." A lady on seeing "Pike's Persuaves to Early Piety," says, "I read that book while I was young, and the fearful sense of guilt I felt that I should accumulate on my soul by rejecting such a faithful and earnest appeal to my heart and conscience, so impressed my mind that it has never left me."

“THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY, LONDON.”

This Parent Tract Society, formed in 1799, pursues its steady course of usefulness at home and abroad, under the continued smiles of Providence. Its relations to the American Tract Society, and to the other Tract Societies of the world, have always been those of kindness and encouragement in their labors to spread the gospel of Christ. The fifty-seventh annual report of the London Society in May last, which was read by Mr. George Henry Davis, late Secretary of the Protestant Alliance, who succeeds the lamented Mr. William Jones as secretary of the Tract Society, shows an increase over the operations of previous years. New publications issued during the year, 280 ; grants for England, Scotland, and Ireland, including 703 libraries for poor districts, ministers, and schools, 5,065,600 copies, value £5,334 ; grants for foreign lands in publications, paper, and money, £4,955 ; total grants at home and abroad, £10,289, or nearly \$50,000, considerably exceeding the total donations received by the Society. The sales amounted to £72,822, being £5,720 more than the previous year ; and the total receipts amounted to £91,528, or nearly \$440,000. Total issues for the year, 31,529,185 publications, or three millions more than the year previous. The report rejoices in “the friendly intercourse kept up between” that Society and the American Tract Society, which they say, “tends to cement that noble offspring of our nation to the parent state, and to throw impediments in the way of war.”

The operations of the London Society's Auxiliaries in Canada are above noticed in the report of the Rochester Agency ; and the proceedings of numerous foreign Tract Societies are shown in connection with the following sketch of this Society's labors abroad.

FOREIGN AND PAGAN LANDS.

Notwithstanding the various changes and revulsions occurring throughout the world, the field for the Society's usefulness abroad was perhaps never more wide and promising than at the present hour. If the Tract operations of some countries have been diminished, those of other countries have been increased in more than a corresponding ratio. If less has been done in Russia, in France there was probably never more encouragement. Though Turkey was the seat of the late terrific contest among the great nations of Europe, the American missions to the Armenians are among the most prosperous in the world, and perhaps in no other foreign country is the Christian press now more effective or more evidently blessed. Though the insurrection in China has caused much interruption of missionary labors especially at Shanghai, and in the late collision with the British forces at Canton the printing establishments of the American Board and of the Presbyterian Board of foreign missions in that city have been destroyed, on Amoy a special blessing has descended; and He who knows best how to rouse the dormant mind of the besotted millions of the Chinese, and cause "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" to shine upon them, may have purposed to use the dark and mysterious events occurring as the means of furthering that glorious result.

As in former years, a special Committee of members of different communions have corresponded with all our principal Foreign Missionary Boards, and received from each Board information of the condition and wants of the department of labor coming within the sphere of this Society, at their respective stations. The correspondence from each station directly with this Society has also been carefully considered, and the Executive Committee have appropriated, with a view best to meet existing wants, and have paid over in cash, during the year ending April 1, including \$1,000 contributed by the American Tract Society at Boston, the sum of *eighteen thousand dollars*, which has been distributed as follows:

For China, missions of A. B. C. F. M., Canton \$500, Amoy \$300, Fuhchau \$200, Shanghai \$300; General Assembly's Board, \$900; Baptist Board, Hongkong, \$200; Protestant Episcopal mission, Shanghai, \$200; Southern Baptist Board, Canton, \$100; Siam, Presbyterian Board, \$500; Assam, \$200; Burmah and Karens, \$600;

Northern India, \$2,000; Orissa, \$300; Telooogoos, Baptist mission \$200, Lutheran mission \$400; Madras, \$500; Arcot, \$300; Ceylon, \$300; Madura, \$500; Satara, \$100; Kolapur, \$100; Nestorians, \$800; Syria, \$200; Armenians, Northern mission \$2,000, Southern mission \$500; Greece, A. B. O. F. M. \$400; Italy and Sardinia, \$500; Dr. Marriott, Basle, including \$100 for Rev. Dr. Malan of Geneva, \$500; Nuremburg, \$200; Berlin, for Wendes, Poles, etc., \$100; Sweden, \$200; Hamburg, Lower Saxony Society \$300, Baptist mission \$1,300; Belgium, \$200; Paris Religious Tract Society, \$1,200; Toulouse, \$300; Spain, \$500; North American Indians, General Assembly's Board, \$100: total, \$18,000.

**TOTAL FOREIGN GRANTS IN CASH TO APRIL 1, 1857, AND
TOTAL EXPENDITURES SANCTIONED TO THAT DATE.**

	Remitted.	Expended.		Remitted.	Expended.
Sandwich Islands	\$27,400 00	\$36,498 27	Nestorians	6,000 00	5,628 67
Java, Borneo, and Malacca	800 00	800 00	Mosul	100 00	50 00
China, A. B. C. F. M. Canton	32,000 00	30,771 18	Syria	6,450 00	6,021 58
“ “ Amoy	1,100 00	588 45	Turkey, Armenians, Jews, etc.	42,430 00	38,057 30
“ “ Fuhchau	900 00	632 46	Greece, Prot. Ep. Ch.	9,100 00	8,716 41
“ “ Shanghai	600 00		“ A. B. O. F. M.	10,800 00	10,173 90
“ Am. Bap. Board	1,600 00	1,600 00	“ Am. Bap. Bd.	3,300 00	3,300 00
“ A. B. M. U., Hongkong	3,500 00	3,165 53	Italy and Sardinia	4,300 00	3,900 00
“ “ Ningpo	1,500 00	889 31	Russia	22,200 00	21,500 00
“ South Bap. Con. Canton	1,300 00	779 92	Poland	700 00	700 00
“ “ Shanghai	1,300 00	819 51	Sweden	3,000 00	2,800 00
“ Presb. Board	7,100 00	5,558 97	Denmark	1,400 00	1,400 00
“ Prot. Epis. Ch.	3,550 00	2,563 50	Berlin, Pruss. Tr. Soc.	1,000 00	1,000 00
“ Southern Meth. Mission	400 00		Berlin, for Wendes, Poles, etc.	2,000 00	1,900 00
Siam, Miss. Am. Bap. Bd.	10,100 00	9,421 23	Hamburg, Low. Sax. Tr. Soc.	8,400 00	8,100 00
“ “ A. B. C. F. M.	7,900 00	7,900 00	Hamburg, Am. Bap. Bd.	15,800 00	14,300 00
“ “ Presb. Board	3,500 00	3,252 19	Bremen	250 00	250 00
Assam	4,100 00	4,222 70	Barmen	1,400 00	1,400 00
Burmah and Karens	34,600 00	33,600 00	Nuremburg, Bavaria	900 00	700 00
Northern India	44,000 00	46,866 29	Calw and Hungary	2,300 00	2,300 00
Calcutta, Rev. Mr. Carapet	800 00	800 00	Basle	2,750 00	2,350 00
Orissa	11,150 00	10,850 00	Holland	300 00	300 00
Telooogoos, Baptist, Nellore	1,900 00	1,449 61	Belgium	2,850 00	2,750 00
“ “ Lutheran, Guntoor	2,100 00	1,250 00	Strasbourg	700 00	600 00
Madras	22,750 00	21,097 40	Paris, Rel. Tr. Soc., etc.	16,820 00	15,620 00
Arcot Mission	1,300 00		France, Am. Bap. Miss. Un.	2,300 00	2,300 00
Madura	8,950 00	8,194 91	Toulouse	6,600 00	6,300 00
Ceylon	32,600 00	31,088 94	Spain	1,900 00	1,900 00
Bombay	14,698 07	13,889 49	Moravian Brethren	3,000 00	2,612 00
Satara	300 00		North Am. Inds., Bap. Bd.	450 00	450 00
Kolapur	500 00	273 20	“ “ A. B. C. F. M.	2,194 00	2,144 30
Ahmednuggur	2,501 93	1,838 87	“ “ Presb. Board	100 00	
South Africa, Zulus	800 00	687 39	Chippeway Indians, Canada	550 00	550 00
“ “ Fem. Tract Soc.	1,000 00	1,000 00	Grande Ligne Mission, “	150 00	150 00
West Africa, A. B. C. F. M.	1,800 00	1,682 00			
“ “ Prot. Ep. Ch.	900 00	600 00			
			Total	\$473,794 00	\$444,795 56

The whole number of publications approved by the Publishing Committee for circulation abroad at the Society's expense, is 3,218, including 370 volumes; and the Society, and the institutions it aids, have issued publications in the following *one hundred and twenty-four* languages and dialects: namely,

Seneca, Mohawk, Delaware, Ojibwa, Otoo, or Iowa, Wea, Putawatomie, Shawanoe, Kansas, Osage, Ottaway, Abernauis, Sioux, or Dakota, Pawnee, Creek,

Choctaw, Cherokee, Nez Perces, Creole, or Negro-German, Negro-English, English, Welsh, Irish, French, Low Breton, Flemish, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Dutch, German, Romanese, Lithuanian, Bohemian, Hungarian, or Magyar, Slavonian, Upper Wendish, Nether Wendish, Vandalian, Servian, Wallachian, Croatian, Danish, Norwegian, Icelandic, Greenlandish, Esquimaux, Swedish, Polish, Judeo-Polish, Finnish, Lappish, Russ, Rival-Estonian, Dorpat-Estonian, Mongolian, Lettish, Tartar-Turkish, Thibetan, Bulgarian, Armenian, Armeno-Turkish, Hebrew, Hebrew-German, Hebrew-Spanish, Modern Greek, Greco-Turkish, Arabic, Syriac, Nestorian, Persian, Grebo, Mpongwe, Dikele, Bakali, Basá, Caffer, Zulu, Sessuto, Wanika, Kinika, Timneh, Mahratta, Goojuratee, Latin, Tamul, Cingalese, Telooگو, Oriya, Bengali, Canarese, Malayalim, Tulu, Hindui, or Dev Nagare, Hindoostani, or Urdu, Panjabi, or Gurmukhi, Cashmire, Burman, Peguan, Salong, Sgau Karen, Sho Karen, Bghai Karen, Kemmee, Siamese, Asamese, Tai, or Khamti, Singpho, Nága, Chinese, Japanese, Malay, Bugis, Javanese, Lettinese, Dyak, Hawaiian, Marquesas, Feejee, Tonga, Serolong, Ga, Isubu, Odji. Total, 124.

Several of these languages are printed in two characters, as the Mahratta in Balbud and Mord, the Urdu in native and Roman, the Hindui in Nagari and Kaithi, the Tai in Tai and Burman. The compound languages consist chiefly of the words of one in the letters of the other; thus the Armeno-Turkish consists of common or familiar Turkish, with a few Armenian terms, printed in Armenian type.

PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE SOCIETY'S PECUNIARY GRANTS ARE APPLIED.

"The Society's pecuniary grants may be discreetly employed in whatever way is necessary for the translation, printing, and circulation of,

- "1. This Society's publications; or,
- "2. Faithful translations of the same;
- "3. Faithful translations of portions of Scripture, as the ten commandments and other plain passages; or,
- "4. Original tracts in foreign languages, faithful translations of which into English shall have been approved by the Publishing Committee.

"The above rules are not considered as presenting any obstacle to putting to press at a foreign station original tracts not bearing the Society's imprint, as soon as prepared; and placing the expense of so many of such tracts as shall be sanctioned by the Publishing Committee, to the account of funds from this Society."

FOREIGN EXAMINING COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEE FOR SANDWICH ISLANDS.

REV. HIRAM BINGHAM, Congregational.
MR. ANDREW JOHNSTONE, Baptist.
REV. ARTEMAS BISHOP, Presbyterian.

COMMITTEES FOR CHINA.

At Canton and Hongkong.

REV. WILLIAM DEAN, Baptist.
REV. DYER BALL, Congregational.
REV. A. P. HAPPER, Presbyterian.

At Shanghai and Ningpo.

RT. REV. WM. J. BOONE, D. D., Episcopal.
REV. ELIJAH C. BRIDGMAN, D. D., Cong'l.
REV. M. S. CULBERTSON, Presbyterian.
REV. JOHN C. LORD, Baptist.

COMMITTEE FOR MODERN GREEK.

REV. JOHN H. HILL, Episcopal.
REV. JONAS KING, D. D., Congregational.
— — — — — Baptist.

COMMITTEE IN SIAM.

REV. STEPHEN MATTOON, Presbyterian.
REV. SAMUEL J. SMITH, Baptist.

COMMITTEE FOR TAMIL AND TELOOGOO.

REV. MIRON WINSLOW, Congregational.
REV. L. JEWETT, Baptist.
REV. C. W. GROENNING, Lutheran.

COMMITTEE IN CEYLON.

REV. — — — — — Baptist.
REV. — — — — — Episcopal.
REV. LEVI SPAULDING, Congregational.

When members of an examining committee are located together, it is gratifying to have a joint report of their proceedings. If resident at different stations, each member may usefully approve and report to the Publishing Committee the issues at his own station which accord with this Society's principles, and transmit them to other members, each member reporting to the Publishing Committee his own proceedings.

The list of *the gratuitous distribution of publications*, inserted in the earlier part of this Report, shows that our aborigines; the countries adjacent to our own, the British dominions, Mexico, and the West India islands; the various countries of South America; our shipping for foreign ports and seamen's chaplains; emigrants to the United States who have been visited at the ports of their embarkation; and foreign countries generally throughout the world, have been liberally supplied with grants of publications, wherever doors of usefulness have appeared to be opened. No application has been denied, or opportunity for distribution neglected, where there seemed grounds of hope that good might be accomplished.

"The *Mexicans*," says a colporteur in Texas, "have interested me much. Several times they have purchased every Spanish book I had. One recently bought D'Aubigné's History, Pilgrim's Progress, Tract Primer, and several other volumes. Wherever I have found them able to read, I have found them willing to read any thing I had. There is a wide door open here for the colporteur. I recently met two or three intelligent Mexicans from Metamoras, one of them of noble Castilian blood. They gladly received Spanish tracts, and cordially invited me to come to see them, giving me their names. They could read and write fluently. The Dairyman's Daughter has thus gone to preach where the living preacher could only be heard with the loss of his life."

Of *Brazil*, an excellent chaplain of the United States Navy, who recently spent many months in that country, writes: "I beg to suggest to the Society the importance and feasibility of introducing their system of colportage into the empire of Brazil. I believe the Brazilians are ready to receive the Bible and religious books. There is enough of the spirit of inquiry abroad to secure attention to any works on religious subjects which might be presented by a colporteur, and my experience in distributing tracts warrants the belief that such books would be readily purchased. I am of opinion that the time has come when a dépôt of Bibles and religious books should be established in Rio de Janeiro. Brazil depends on Portugal for books, and consequently there is no such thing as a religious literature in the empire. It is painful to think how destitute

are the millions of Brazil of all religious teaching or reading. And whence should the supply come; whence so naturally as from Protestant Christians on this side the Atlantic? It is my earnest desire and strong hope that the American Tract Society will try the experiment of supplying Brazil with a religious literature."

For the Canadian Missionary Society at Montreal, the Society have just printed an edition of *one hundred evangelical French Hymns*, of which liberal grants have been made to that mission.

SPAIN.

About one year since, Mr. De Mora from Madrid, who by the faithful study of the Scriptures was brought to renounce the errors of Popery, and had become an active member of the Society for Religious Reformation in Spain, visited this country to obtain assistance in their labors, especially by procuring casts of stereotype plates of the Bible and evangelical works already issued in Spanish in this country, that they might be used in Spain for issuing successive editions for circulation there. After repeated interviews, Mr. De Mora presented to the Committee the following written request, kindly translated by Theodore Dwight, Esq., which clearly presents his own view of the state of things then existing in that unhappy country, where the light of the great Reformation was extinguished by brutal martyrdoms, and the powers that be are still endeavoring to quench every spark of evangelical light.

"NEW YORK, April 25, 1856.

"TO THE VERY CHRISTIAN AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY—The subscriber, a member and secretary of the Society of Religious Reformation in Spain, has the honor to make known to this respected association, that he has been commissioned by the directing junta of our peninsula for the purpose of becoming acquainted with, forming relations, and soliciting the influence and pecuniary resources of the Christian societies of this new hemisphere, for the publication and propagation in our country of the *divine word of God*.

"The humble efforts of the subscriber have not been fruitless thus far, thanks to the mercy of God and the activity and Christian zeal of the brethren in Christ of New York. 'Ask, and ye shall receive,' says the Lord Jesus; and in fact, trusting in his divine promise, we have asked, and the Lord himself, through means of our brethren the Christians of this biblical city, have granted us all that we may need to print and propagate the holy Scriptures in our country.

"The Lord will be with you as he is with them. Your desires and aspirations must be the same; and you and they and we, children of the same Father, brethren of the same Lord, and members of the same body, ought to be identified, and to desire what the Lord Jesus desires and wills, namely, that his divine word may be diffused over the whole circuit of the earth, God strengthening and assisting us all, as children of our Father, as coöperators and colaborers in the one work of the holy cause of our Lord Jesus.

"The subscriber therefore, trusting in your activity and Christian zeal, and above all, in the infallible promises of our Lord Jesus, ventures to request this very Christian Society to assist this cause among the Spaniards in Europe, by granting them some of the works which you have printed in this country for Spaniards, and the funds which you may judge necessary and proper to print and circulate them in Spain.

"The Society of Reformation in the Peninsula, during the short time of its existence, has printed several works, among which are *La Lucilla*, by Monod, and has labored, and still labors in public addresses, by the press, and as much as possible in the provinces.

"The following works, published by your Society, I have examined, and some of them, if not all, would be of extreme utility if published in the Peninsula.

"[D'Aubigné's] History of the Reformation, vols. 1 & 2, The Divine Authority of the New Testament, [by Bogue,] The Book of Psalms in Verse, The Illustrated Tract Primer, Manual for Children, Volume of 16 children's books; also a number of vignettes and cuts would be most valuable for the illustration of religious works.

"With trust in the Lord Jesus and the directors, the subscriber offers these requests.

"Your brother in the Lord,

"HERREROS DE MORA."

Duplicate casts of the stereotype plates of the seven volumes thus requested by Mr. De Mora were taken, amounting to nearly \$500, the balance of which sum was placed in his hands.

He returned to Madrid, where having family worship in his own house, reading and explaining the Bible to his friends, and endeavoring to circulate the Scriptures and evangelical books, he was suddenly assaulted while taking a walk, and arrested for heresy, at the instigation of the Jesuits, whose history he had written. He was thrust into a damp dungeon, used as the worst criminals, where he was attacked by a fever that threatened his life. When taken before the Vicar-general, he made the following noble confession:

"I am a Christian. I protested against Rome long ago. The gospel is my law and my support, and I hope that our divine Saviour will not abandon me, but will give me strength to suffer."

The vicar fell on his knees and entreated him to retract, offering him riches and honor; but he replied with firmness, "I have said I am a Christian, and that nothing in this world will induce me to retract what I have said and done." He was afterwards delivered over by the civil power into the hands of the inquisition, but by the urgent request of the British government, he was allowed to escape from prison, and is now in London, where he has prepared a history of the treatment he received, which has been translated into English by Rev. Wm. H. Rule, and reprinted in the United States.

The stereotype plates committed to him are supposed to be safe,

their further use awaiting the dispensations of that Providence which controls all events.

FRANCE.

The TOULOUSE RELIGIOUS BOOK SOCIETY continues its useful labors for diffusing evangelical truth among the French people. They have recently issued, or have in press, several valuable works, including a brief comment on the Bible translated from the German, and have sent specimens and copies of their books, for the Society's use or distribution.

The PARIS RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY have addressed several interesting communications to the Society, stating that their field for tract distribution, especially through Sabbath-schools and young men's associations, and in aid of feeble churches and other evangelical labors, is large, and at one time that their expenses had exceeded their income by 44,000 francs, or more than \$8,000. They state that most of their distributions throughout France are among those who have small means, many of whom are struggling with opposition from Popery; and that the claims on the active Christians of Paris are so numerous and varied, that they are obliged to seek the coöperation and support of their brethren in the United States. To meet in part their immediate wants, \$500 was sent there in December, to which \$700 were added in February, making the remittances in the Society's year \$1,200.

In November the Rev. Mr. De Pressensé, secretary, wrote :

"During the last five years, Bible and tract distribution has been prosecuted upon a larger scale than ever, and with the most blessed results. It has brought about a revival amidst our Protestant churches; and their increasing zeal evinces itself by the erection of several benevolent or evangelizing institutions, which entail upon them expenses above their means. The Christians therefore, from concentrating their efforts upon these local and particular works, are rather unable to support the works of a more general character; that is, the Bible and tract societies. Assuredly they are not deficient in sympathy with those societies, but they are deficient in resources.

"Within the last years, tract distribution has been actively carried on among the Roman-catholic population; but in that quarter, so far as financial resources are considered, we are at the time of small beginnings—at the sowing, not the reaping time. These thousands and hundreds of thousands of tracts we have not means to pay for. The work requires sacrifices; but these sacrifices are amply repaid by the results, and with these results we ought to acquaint you.

"You could scarcely imagine to what extent our society's publications go to the working classes in our cities, and to the peasantry in our rural districts. In the metropolis, tract distribution amounts to some 15,000 copies every month; and the evangelist-visitors—city missionaries—who labor mostly in the suburbs, inform us

that in every house where they have access, our publications are eagerly perused. In workshops, and more particularly in the humble dwellings where the operatives are working with their families, you might see the tract-reader surrounded by his wife, children, and neighbors, who are listening to the narrative of a remarkable conversion, or some interesting religious event. The city missionaries are not unfrequent attendants at those evening parties of a new description : before separating they offer up prayer ; and their exhortations and edifying conversations generally induce many persons to become regular attendants on the evangelical chapels, whose number is on the increase.

"It is worth noticing that the work of evangelization in the metropolis has never been prosecuted upon a larger scale than at present ; and that work creates a large demand for our tracts. You will readily allow that it is of the highest importance that the metropolis should be thus worked upon, both for its own benefit, and the vast influence which it exerts over the French population at large. If it could be said of Paris, 'I have much people in this city,' that would have incalculable bearings upon the whole kingdom. Things are not yet so advanced, but it may be said without any exaggeration that, in every district of the metropolis, where the work of evangelization is prosecuted with some degree of system, the preaching of the word is attended by several hundreds of persons. Let us add, that the work in Paris is free and unimpeded ; there the influence of the Romish clergy is felt only by those who are willing to submit to it. There the independent minds may exert themselves in every sphere, politics excepted. The metropolis, therefore, is a vast field which we cultivate with much system, by diffusing tracts abundantly.

"Lyons, Marseilles, Bordeaux, and several other large towns are also abundantly supplied with tracts ; and if our course were not frequently impeded by pecuniary difficulties, it would be necessary to make far more abundant distributions, in order that the supply might keep pace with the demand.

"If we turn to rural districts, we find equal facilities. In the communes where there are Protestant congregations, the tracts are distributed by the members of those congregations, and more particularly by the young. Wherever there is a living church, the minister is anxious to form a Young Men's Christian Union ; one of the principal employments of those young persons, is to visit, on Sundays, the vicinity of their village, to distribute tracts, to form some intercourse with those who receive them. That kind of tract distribution is one of the most efficient that we know of, as it benefits both the giver and the receiver. We are always eager to second these exertions by abundant supplies of our publications. Wherever that means cannot be resorted to, we use the instrumentality of insulated Christians, or evangelizing colporteurs ; thus do we find our access to that part of the population that seem to be almost without the reach of Christian exertions.

"We may, as usual, rank the *Almanach des Bons conseils*, among our most valuable and acceptable publications. We have no doubt that, had we money enough to print some 300,000 or 400,000 copies, they could be disposed of. That publication tends more and more to become the popular almanac of France. The official men, who cannot but perceive that this little book is calculated to exert a truly beneficial influence, favor the circulation of it. The priests themselves, unless blinded by fanaticism, cannot but remark that the reading of it may benefit the Roman-catholics as well as the Protestants, and do not oppose its circulation among their parishioners. We know of several Roman-catholic vicars who purchase our almanac to make presents either to children or to their friends. And yet you will find in the contents of that publication no compromise with error, they are strictly evangelical.

"From the above statements you may perceive that the Paris Tract Society is advancing more and more in the way where, under God's blessing, it may become a mighty instrumentality to promote gospel influence in a country where Romanism is fast losing ground. But in order to promote a consummation whose bearings would extend much farther than France, it is necessary that the servants of Christ in foreign lands should aid their French brethren. We are here a very small number engaged in the prosecution and management of Christian works: if we are to be successful, it will be the more manifest that the success is to be ascribed to God alone; but if that handful of laborers are to be left to their own exertions, they may be crushed by the weight of their task.

"If the work of tract distribution were confined within certain limits, it might be prosecuted by means of resources derived from France. If it were to confine itself to meet the wants of the Protestant denomination, it is not to be doubted that sufficient resources might be found among the Protestants. But the fact is, that so many doors of usefulness are open to our Society, and it finds so ready access to the Roman-catholic population, that its task grows immense, and its sacrifices grow in the same proportion; so that we are constrained to appeal to the liberality of all the friends of the gospel, in every nation, who may think it their duty to make the light of salvation shine upon benighted souls, and to wrest them from the grasp of ignorance and superstition."

The STRASBOURG Tract Society sold the last year 70,530, and granted 76,596 copies. They issue Tracts both in French and German, including a series in each language for children, and have employed a faithful colporteur. Evangelical pastors are encouraged by their labors, and have reported cheering evidences of usefulness.

The Rev. Mr. Puaux, at Rochefort, France, has issued a number of Tracts, of which he has sent copies.

BELGIUM—SWITZERLAND.

At BRUSSELS, Rev. Leonard Anet reports eight new Tracts issued in French, of which he has sent copies, and Bible Stories and a Tract on the Romish controversy in *Flemish* in the press. He regrets the want of devoted *men* to engage in colportage, and the indifference of multitudes as to their salvation; but states several cases in which the reading of tracts has been evidently blessed in winning souls to God.

The Rev. G. Tilhol, secretary of the Belgian Evangelical Society, in a letter just received, dated March 21, acknowledging a grant of \$200, gives the following highly interesting intelligence of the existing struggles with Popery in that country.

"We are happy to be able to inform you that the sale and distribution of tracts have never been so considerable here as during the last few months. A work is going on among our people at this moment, the importance of which we cannot but acknowledge.

"Since the attacks of the Romish clergy upon the instruction given in the Bel-

gian universities, the war between the clerical and the liberal parties has not ceased to rage ; and it has been rendered more spirited by various pamphlets, which have made a good deal of stir, and in which well-known writers have insisted on the absolute necessity of seceding from a church whose principles are incompatible with all liberty and progress in civilization. At length the clergy conceived the unfortunate idea of bringing from France a missionary, who has preached successively in Liège and in Gand, and who has disgusted public sentiment by his incessant abuse of the Bible and Protestantism. At Liège Mr. Durand, and at Brussels Messrs. Anet, Panchaud, and Tilhol have challenged him to public discussions, which he has been willing to meet. This has put us to the necessity of holding public conferences on the subjects in debate. These have been remarkably well attended ; my colleagues, who have been here since the commencement of the awakening, say they have never seen any thing like it. Mr. Anet has also published several pamphlets, and among others two letters to the Abbé Combalet, of which 2,000 were disposed of in four days, besides a large number of other tracts, etc. Mr. Anet has also published a letter to the Abbé Dechamps, in refutation of his work against Protestantism. He will soon publish a fourth letter. Mr. Panchaud has published his address on Confession ; and I mine on The Protestant Method, in connection with reading the Bible. The address of Mr. Durand on the Immaculate Conception will soon appear.

" We may therefore truly say, that never have our publications been so numerous as of late ; and never, as I have already said, have our sales been so abundant. In the single district of Charleroi, 3,000 tracts have been distributed within a few months, and the pastor there calls for 3,000 more. On one day, at the close of two discourses in different places, a colporteur was able to sell 49 francs' worth of tracts to hearers almost exclusively Roman-catholics. Not less remarkable and encouraging are the free sales we make among the *Flemish* part of our population. Until lately we could do almost nothing there ; a sale of 20 francs' worth of tracts per month, was an occasion for special joy. Now our colporteurs sell 100 francs' worth per month, and are well received by all classes.

" Of course this progress is very provoking to the clergy. They have raised riots against us at Gand and at Anvers. In this latter city especially the riot was quite serious, and was quelled only by the arrival of a detachment of troops. All this however only shows more clearly the spirit of the Roman-catholic clergy, and disposes public opinion more favorably towards us. We have been able to sow largely ; and we only wait for the blessing of Him who can make the divine seed spring up, and bring forth the good fruits of conversion and holy living for the glory of God. We may bless him for putting the seal of his approval on the work of our laborers already. There have been new admissions to church-membership at all our stations, even the least prosperous ; and in some the number rejoices our hearts. At Liège, in the course of three months, twenty Roman-catholics have been admitted to the Supper ; and at Brussels, a still larger number."

Dr. MARRIOTT, at Basle, continues his active evangelical labors in different directions, especially in behalf of Germany. He reports that a new German translation of the Memoir of Harlan Page had been made by Rev. Mr. Kayser, which was in the press at Basle. For the Swiss troops, called out in the prospect, which existed for a time, of a collision between Switzerland and Prussia, Dr. Marriott issued editions of the Life of Col. Gardiner, Conversation between a Corporal

and Soldier, etc., and circulated among them many thousands of the New Testament and Tracts; and he had recently been informed of the hopeful conversion of several Roman-catholics in Bavaria and their renunciation of Popery, through the influence of Tracts he circulated there in 1846. "Thus," he says, "after many years we hear of the fruit of our labors, and this from a journey that, of all I ever undertook, was attended with many trying circumstances, and which during a long time made me much cast down." He deeply regrets the apparent springing up, in various parts of Germany, of a high-church or formal spirit, in distinction from a love of perishing souls and labor and prayer for their saving conversion to Christ through the renewing and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit.

To the Rev. Dr. MALAN of Geneva, \$100, contributed by a friend, has been sent to assist in circulating some of his numerous evangelical publications, of which several have been issued by this Society and the Religious Tract Society in London, and others approved for circulation abroad.

ITALY AND SARDINIA.

The ITALIAN SOCIETY AT GENEVA have reported a list of Italian volumes and Tracts issued by them, of most of which they have sent copies, and nineteen have been approved.

The question of continuing with, or separating from the clergy of the Vaudois "Table," had somewhat hindered the efforts of the friends of Zion.

Of Sardinia, for which \$200 have been sent to Count Guicciardini, Mr. H. Barbey, in behalf of Col. Tronchin, writes: "There are classes at Genoa, which have been formed with the view of teaching the people how to read the Bible. They are drawn in by the beauty of the holy word. They meet in the evenings, under the eye of one of their number most advanced in knowledge, and each person present reads a verse or two, adding or asking some explanation or reference. The people have renounced Popery and its idolatry, and have turned to God and his word: the Bible seems to answer their expectations and present wants, and to be sufficient for such spiritual food as their actual condition requires." To aid such readers the Italian Society were about to issue an edition of Deodati's version of the New Testament with full marginal references.

GERMANY.

The Rev. J. G. ONCKEN, at Hamburg, in behalf of the American Baptist mission, has reported full statements of the Tracts published in the year 1856, and of the wide range of their distribution in different countries, and at *more than one hundred stations*, of which he presents the following highly interesting summary view :

"Our Tract circulation has been double that of any preceding year ; no less than 1,056,000 copies (including fourteen new Tracts) having during the year been issued from our press ; and notwithstanding this increase in the number printed, our stock on hand being, I am happy to say, lower than it has ever before been.

"New fields of missionary labor are constantly opening before us, and the pioneers which the Lord of the harvest most frequently employs to awaken the Macedonian cry, 'Come over, and help us,' are the tracts sent out in His name by our Hamburg Tract Society. Our wants at present are therefore very urgent, and our sorrow is great because we cannot meet the pressing calls from all quarters for more tracts. Being left with a debt of £35 at the close of the past year, and having no funds at our disposal, we have been placed under the painful necessity of suspending all further printing of tracts until we are supplied with funds.

"The field of our labors has not, as in preceding years, been confined to our own fatherland, but has embraced Denmark, Norway, Holland, Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Switzerland, and the North of France (Alsace.)

"To the French, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish, Italian, and Bohemian seamen visiting our port, we have supplied tracts in those languages. No less than 4,999 vessels of all nations were thus visited during the year, and in many instances the men were also induced to purchase copies of the Scriptures.

"Our efforts have also extended largely to the many thousands of our countrymen who pass through Hamburg as emigrants to the United States of America, and we doubt not that many precious souls, by the divine blessing resting on the reading, during their long voyage, of the tracts thus supplied to them by the Hamburg Tract Society, will land on the shores of America with hearts renewed by sovereign grace, and will thus convey the blessings of the gospel with them to the 'far West.' The generous aid which your Committee have continued to us during the past year, has materially contributed to these glorious results. The number of our fellow-laborers in tract

circulation is still increasing, and our *Tract visitors* especially have effected a large amount of gratuitous labor, inasmuch as the system of loan circulation from house to house is everywhere adopted in our churches, now numbering 70, with 6,000 or 7,000 members. At each of our more than 500 preaching stations we keep a little stock of tracts for distribution, and thus our field is constantly extending. Though the Hamburg Tract Society is probably the youngest in Germany, it has already taken the start of all the others, not only in the number of tracts it annually sends forth, but also in the large number of Christians who in connection with it are personally engaged in tract labor.

"Though the spirit of opposition and persecution still exists in several of the German states, and Protestant princes and ministers are still persecuting Protestants, and continue to imprison some of the brethren for preaching Christ, and to prohibit the distribution of tracts and the sale of the Bible without the Apocrypha, as in Mecklenburg, Hesse Cassel, Sleswig, etc., we have notwithstanding been amply rewarded, and our hearts have been encouraged and our hands strengthened by the many proofs of the divine blessing in our work in the conversion of sinners to Christ. I append a few interesting facts showing the usefulness of tract circulation.

"And now, my dear brother, in conclusion let me remind you and the Committee once more, that for the continuance and increase of our tract operations, we are greatly dependent on the munificence of your Society; and therefore, in view of the wide field we occupy, in consideration of the appalling fact that millions of my countrymen never will hear the gospel unless it be presented to them by means of tracts, and finally, on account of the uncertainty how long the opportunities now presented to us may last, I beg you to help us to the utmost extent of your ability. We are also much in need of a grant of German tracts published by you, to be used as loan tracts; and of Danish, Swedish, and Dutch tracts we have none left."

We regret the want of room to add some pages of narratives of decided evidences of the divine blessing on Tract distribution, which Rev. Mr. Oncken has recorded. The spirit exhibited by many of the converts appears in a little band of Christians in Sleswig, Denmark, who have been long the subjects of persecution, not being able to meet for prayer but by stealth, and in momentary danger of being seized by the police. Although they are but forty-one in number, their united contributions to the mission in Germany, which they had been gathering for a year, amounted to *two hundred and forty dol-*

lars, or about six dollars from each member of the church. Of this amount, forty dollars were contributed by the *children* of these poor people, thirty-one in number, who had gathered it by bone and rag picking, or other humble and painful employments, such as turning peats for the farmers at the rate of a cent a thousand.

Of the LOWER SAXONY TRACT SOCIETY, at Hamburg, the Rev. Dr. Craig, secretary, reports that in 1856 they issued nine new tracts in German, and eleven in Danish, Bogatzky's *Close Walk of a Believer with Christ*, and Paleario's *Benefits of Christ's Death*; that more than 300,000 copies had been circulated; and seven *colporteurs* employed for the whole or a part of the year—one in East Friesland, Hanover, and Oldenburg, one in Westphalia and Rhenish Prussia, one in Holstein, one in the south of Prussia near Bavaria, one in Pomerania, one in Jutland and Sleswig among the Danish speaking population, and one chiefly laboring among the emigrants on their way to America. One of these has suffered bitter persecution, especially from neologists who found that the simple gospel had a power to draw away their hearers; and others, even in Protestant countries in Germany, are met by high-church intolerance, and laws prohibiting their distributions. Some of the *colporteurs* have had cheering experience; they have carried the gospel to many a house and heart where it would not otherwise have come; and the Society have had gratifying evidence that their labors have not been in vain.

At NUREMBURG IN BAVARIA, Rev. J. Birkner, President, and A. Wolf, Secretary of the Society for Home Evangelization, wrote a full letter, October 20, gratefully acknowledging the Society's aid, and giving intelligence as to the religious state of Bavaria.

"We cannot compare ourselves," they say, "with our sister societies at Stuttgart, Barmen, and Hamburg, since our resources are smaller, and consequently the results of our labors are smaller too, not to mention a complete antipathy to the work of God, poverty, and the here in Bavaria prevailing sectarianism, which prevent participation in our work; yet we can say with truth that our Society meets the real wants of our country, as it seeks to spread the simple, positive truths of the gospel among the people, and not sectarianism, which only excites unholy passions, and fans party contention. Hundreds of publications would never find their way to the multitude, and many inquiries after salvation, although hidden from us, for the most part, would not have been made, but for the labors of our society.

"We can also inform you that the field for the efforts of our society expands more every year, and that our labors increase accordingly. We have our agents not only in the different districts of Bavaria, by whom our publications are scattered in all directions, but our society also extends its labors beyond the confines of Bavaria, since our books and tracts have gone to Saxony, Brunswick, Hanover,

Pomerania, Silesia, Hesse, Westphalia, Nassau, and Baden, and even to Venice. We considered these shipments of publications of the greater importance, since they were mostly made to parts which had been under the sway of infidelity, and where our books had to do the work of the living preacher. Besides the books distributed among individuals, either by sale or grant, we have had to establish new circulating libraries, and to increase those already in existence, one of which particularly, in Nuremberg, is doing a good work.

"During the past year we sold books to the amount of 1,261 florins, and distributed in all 2,000 books, 9,000 tracts, and 19,000 colored Scripture pictures; and the number of publications sold would have been far greater had we not been limited by our means, and had we had sufficient funds to keep a larger stock of the books most in demand. This not being the case, we have had to leave many orders unfilled. And still there is great need for laboring with all our might, since infidelity, materialism, and errors of various kinds break in upon us with might, and give ground of alarm in looking into the future.

"We most ardently wish that our society, which becomes more appreciated here and there, could be so supported by Christians in our land, that we could continue our labors with our own means and develop greater activity; but as we have stated before, besides the great poverty of our land, which is particularly felt by the clergy, rigid sectarianism is the great obstacle; and the majority of our wealthy and educated men are not inclined to spread publications which are not according to their minds, and which uncover and reprove their unbelief.

"From the above you see, dear brethren, who labor in more favorable circumstances for the kingdom of God, that we have to combat great difficulties, and that we have to apply for foreign aid. But you will also see that we are doing the same great work with you—spreading the eternal truth of God, which will triumph gloriously when the Lord comes, although it is now held in contempt and refused by the blinded and by the enemies of God."

Of the PRUSSIAN TRACT SOCIETY AT BERLIN, Major Westphal, who succeeds the late venerated secretary Mr. Elsner, states that they have many opportunities for the distribution of *Polish* Tracts; and they had furnished books for Bohemia, and put to press two Tracts in Lithuanian. Twelve new Tracts were issued the last year, and the total issues since 1816 amounted to 5,420,700 copies.

Mr. Samuel Elsner died August 31, 1856, aged 78. Long before any Tract Society was formed in Berlin, and when the state of religion was lamentably low, he labored for the cause of evangelical truth, and had Tracts printed at his own expense, which he circulated on all suitable occasions, whether at home or abroad. In 1816 he succeeded in forming the Prussian Tract Society at Berlin, which has the patronage of the government, and circulates its publications post free. Over the interests of this Society he faithfully watched for *forty years* till his death, providing for the depository, fuel, etc., at his own expense, and contributing liberally to its funds. He also took part in the formation of other existing religious societies, and aided them with his counsel. Few care as he did for the welfare of immortal

souls ; and the loss of his labors for the best interests of the Society is deeply felt.

At CALW, Dr. Barth continues his efficient operations, not only in Germany, but extending liberal aid in the issuing of publications in various languages in foreign countries. He has recently given £25, to assist the American mission at Ooroomiah in printing his Church History in Nestorian.

The STUTTGART Society printed the last year 193,000 Tracts and purchased 10,270, besides 132,997 colored pictures ; making the circulation in 25 years, 1,973,966 tracts, 22,595 volumes, 12,127 Bibles and Testaments, and 860,400 colored pictures. They employed the last year five young men as colporteurs ; expenditures \$4,809, including \$882 40 for colportage.

Rev. T. F. KARMAN, of Dantzic, Prussia, reports that in 28 years he has distributed nearly 700,000 publications, drawn from the different evangelical societies in Germany. He has employed one colporteur, and has connection with 180 brethren who obtain publications from him, which they circulate. At his request \$87 76 worth have been sent him on sale, and \$20 worth as a grant.

To Rev. F. W. Bergemann, at New Ruppın, province of Brandenburg, Prussia, General Agent of the EVANGELICAL SOCIETY FOR GERMAN-Y, who have circulated many publications by colporteurs, 15,000 pages have been sent as specimens.

SWEDEN.

A new Tract Society has been formed in Stockholm, the "National Gospel Institution," embracing most of the members of the Committee of the former Society. The second article of the new Society's constitution is : "As there is within our country an established church with pure evangelical faith and free spreading of the Bible, the Institution intends to act by the spreading of books, etc., in perfect accordance with the existing principles of faith, and to employ only such persons as from belief and conviction belong to that church for which they are to labor ; the Institution will consequently by no means place itself in opposition to the present arrangements within the church for the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ in the country, but rather act in concert with them, according as the Institution may be requested to do, or as itself may find advisable."

Its avowed aim is peacefully to pursue its work in accordance with the doctrines of the Swedish national church, yet with no zeal

to proselyte from other evangelical denominations. It has twelve directors, Baron Alströmer chairman, Mr. Vennersten treasurer, Rev. H. J. Lundborg secretary, and has entered on its labors with much efficiency. At the end of the first quarter, August 31, it had five colporteurs, and six others had labored for a time at the expense of private individuals. It has also employed students from the University in this service, and in January issued the first number of a monthly Swedish Messenger.

Rev. Mr. Lundborg has written full and cordial letters, requesting this Society's aid and coöperation, and copies of its publications for the young and of the Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper, which have been granted.

The Rev. ANDREW WIBERG, who recently visited this country, and has kindly revised most of this Society's publications in Swedish, also writes as secretary of the "Missionary Union of Stockholm," reporting the formation of that society, which is conducted by a board of twelve members, one-half of whom are Lutherans and one-half Baptists; Capt. John Berger president, M. P. Palmquist treasurer. Rev. Mr. Wiberg has transmitted a truly admirable collection of tracts of larger and smaller size lately issued in Stockholm, including Come to Jesus, Ryle's Christ and the Two Thieves, and Living or Dead, Scripture Promises, and other well-known and highly evangelical tracts, many of which it is hoped may be reprinted in this country.

RUSSIA.

The Tract friends in St. Petersburg, notwithstanding the interruption occasioned by the late war, sold from the dépôt in 1855, 32,324 copies, and in 1856, 41,598 copies. The Society's last grant of \$700 had not been expended, but was needed at the last dates for immediate use.

Mr. ARCHIBALD MIRRIELES, who for a long term of years has been the active supporter of the Tract and other benevolent operations in Russia, writes:

"You will see by the statement that we printed last year 55,000 of six tracts, and we have now in the hands of the printer thirteen others, of which 130,000 copies are ordered, it being important to have large editions in the present position of affairs. This is quite beyond the means at our disposal, but we have not hesitated to strike while the iron is hot, in the assurance that your Committee

will come to our aid, as in bygone days, and I am deputed by the friends here to solicit your kind assistance. We should also be much obliged by a grant of say 5,000 of your German tracts, and a small selection of English, French, and German books. Respecting these, I shall write more particularly to our friend and former coworker Mr. J. S. Ropes.

"We have taken advantage of the recent appointment of a reverend metropolitan to present a petition, through our depositary, for permission to sell the 'Life of Christ,' printed in 1844, and then not permitted to be published. The result is yet unknown.

"In conclusion I may mention, that in all probability this is the last annual statement which I shall hand to your Society, as I purpose retiring from St. Petersburg in August, after a residence of thirty-six years. I trust the arrangements made in anticipation of this change, for carrying forward this good work, and others of a kindred nature, in which I have borne a large share, may have the divine blessing vouchsafed, and work well for the spiritual interests of the community and the promotion of the glory of God. According to the new arrangements my son, Mr. W. S. Mirrieles, will be your future correspondent."

FROM A REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY.

"Ten years ago I visited you last," said a Russian nobleman, "and bought a pretty large quantity of little books, which I distributed among my peasants. The benefit thereof was, that the greatest part of them learned to read, in which I gave them instruction, and they now show great improvement in their conduct. To lie and to deceive is very rare among them, and most of them have given up drunkenness, as far as I know. The neighboring noblemen follow my example; and as I am now, after many years, here again in St. Petersburg, I come to you to buy a new stock of books."

GREECE.

The Rev. JONAS KING, D. D., wrote, Athens, January 30, 1857: "On the 31st ult. I finished the correction of the translation of the last sheet of the fifth volume of the Collection of the American Tract Society's publications in modern Greek. This volume contains upwards of six hundred pages 8vo, and the correction of the translation cost me a great deal of labor. Of the first three volumes I have already sent you a copy, and I hope soon to send you a copy of the fourth and fifth volumes.

"The first volume consists of 430 pages, the second of 587, the third of 498, the fourth of 435, and the fifth of 648 pages; in all, 2,598 pages, which I printed in 1853-56.

"This work I had a great desire to accomplish as soon as possible,

because I felt that no other person would do it, and that if I should be taken away by death, many of the Society's former publications would, on account of the style in which they were printed, remain useless. Some of the translations were very incorrect, and almost all of them needed a thorough revision in order to make them truly useful and acceptable to this people. Now that they are put in an eligible and permanent form, I trust they will be useful long after my head shall be laid in the grave.

"I have now commenced printing *Alleine's Alarm*, and after that I intend to print the '*Prayers of the Saints*,' selected from the Bible; and I wish also to print immediately an edition of the ten commandments, as the last edition of ten thousand copies is nearly exhausted.

"A son of the chaplain of the king of Prussia who was here last summer, and who is himself assistant chaplain to the king, informed me that a copy of the '*Prayers of the Saints*' which I sent to his father several years ago, had been the means of the publication of many thousands of similar books in the kingdom of Prussia, with the difference, I believe, that they were accompanied with remarks as to the occasion of the prayers, whereas I published the prayers as they are found in the Bible, without any remarks except what are contained in the caption, or summary of their contents.

"In order to proceed with my work, I shall need of course additional funds."

Dr. King adds, March 14, "I have just received a letter from Thessalonica informing me that fifteen or twenty heads of Greek families in Cassandra, about eighteen hours from Thessalonica, have publicly proclaimed themselves Protestants, and have formed a separate church as Protestants, and are recognized as such by the Turkish government. In the same letter, I am requested to send as many Greek tracts as I can spare."

THE ARMENIANS OF TURKEY.

A letter from the American mission to Turkey, dated, Constantinople, May 22, 1856, after noticing the death of Rev. Mr. Everett, and lamenting that "the working force of the mission is reduced, while the work is greatly increasing on their hands," proceeds to notice the results of the war, the recent act of toleration by the Sublime Porte, and other interesting facts.

"The Lord has graciously and very greatly blessed every department of our work the past year. The fearful war that was allowed to arise, and that has destroyed so many lives and such vast treasures, has not been allowed to check, but has forwarded our work. But war long continued must be disastrous to this work,

as it would show the very worst elements of character that are found in Western Europe. Hence when the Turks had seen enough of the Western powers to know their prowess and respect them for their aid, God in his mercy sent peace.

"But the great effect produced by the war is the *entire religious liberty that is guaranteed to all the subjects of the sultan*. Whether this law is to be executed, is a problem not yet solved. No doubt it will be slowly done, and we cannot expect that it will be without suffering and violence; but to-day the *law* is on the side of liberty. The law of the land, as understood at the capital at least, grants to every man the right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. The vast Mohammedan population is thus thrown open to our influence.

"We are glad to invite you, sir, as the representative of the American Tract Society, which has so long and so liberally aided us in the reformation going on in the East, to go with us still as we enter upon this enlarged field. Do not think that the population now thrown open to us is a hopeless one, far from it; being the dominant people, they have far less duplicity and guile than those of other nations. They have seen only a corrupt form of Christianity, that is little better than idolatry, and they have not until lately doubted the correctness of their own religion.

"Wherever Protestantism has gone, though there has been no direct effort made to influence the Turks, their faith has been shaken. In Aintab, where the reformation has made the greatest progress, the Moslems have been most awakened. Two have been banished for their Protestant sentiments, and it is well understood that many are doubting the truth of the Koran. In nearly every place where there is a missionary, there is at least one, if not several hopeful inquirers from among the followers of the false prophet. All who are laboring and praying for the evangelization of the world will rejoice with us in the hope that this deluded people, having accomplished their work as a scourge of the corrupt Christian churches, is not to be destroyed, but converted and saved. It is in view of this increase of our field, that we feel constrained to ask so large a contribution, \$2,500, from your Society. This work and this field is not ours, nor yours, but the Lord's; to us and to you an agency is given, and a particular and appropriate place is assigned in the work. While from year to year you have been giving of your funds and your prayers, and we have been printing and distributing books and giving instruction, the Lord has blessed us beyond our expectations. He calls upon us to thank Him, to take courage, and to prosecute our work with increased energy.

"There are now out of print about twenty books and tracts; we are anxious to reprint most, if not all of these. There is also a great number of most excellent books in English, that we would be glad to print in the various languages of the people among whom we are laboring. You will be pleased to know that brother Schaffner, who has so long labored for the Jews, has now turned his attention to the Turks. He will prepare books and tracts in the Arabic character. We have two colporteurs now engaged in selling books in this character to Moslems. One of these has sold during the past month seventy copies of the Scriptures and New Testament in Arabic. A few days ago he sold three copies of the New Testament in the *court of St. Sophia*. Shall not the 'word of life' yet reënter that wonderful monument of architectural skill?

"Praying that the Lord may bestow upon us all wisdom to do the whole work committed to us, and hoping for a very especial remembrance in your supplications to the great 'Head of the church,' we subscribe ourselves, dear sir, on behalf of the mission,

"W. A. FARNSWORTH,
"T. C. TROWBRIDGE."

"Rev. WM. A. HALLOCK, D. D., Cor. Sec.

The Rev. Dr. HAMLIN, in addresses on his recent visit to this country, stated that the religious toleration secured by the treaty of peace to the whole Turkish empire, Mohammedans, Armenians, Greeks, Roman-catholics, and Protestants, is more comprehensive than is fully understood from the French and English translations. It is in substance this : *As to religion, there shall be no prohibition of the free exercise of conscience.* It may lie to some extent as a dead letter ; but this is its true import. It annuls the death penalty to a Mohammedan Turk, if he embraces Christianity. Possibly this toleration might ultimately have been granted by the sultan if the war had not occurred, but now the powers of England and France hold him bound by solemn treaty to fulfil it. Some Turks have already been converted. The distinguished Turkish convert at Salonica is now supplying Dr. Hamlin's pulpit in his absence.

The treaty also allows Turks to *sell land* to Christians ; the whole territory having hitherto been held solely by Mohammedans. Hence wealthy Armenians have been bankers or merchants.

The Turks see that the spiritual religion taught by our missionaries is widely different from Popery. The Mohammedan absolutely rejects Popery as *idolatrous*, in the worship of pictures of saints, etc. ; *absurd*, in pretending to turn the wafer into God, etc. ; and *corrupt*, in the falsehood and sins universally prevalent. Neither of these charges lie against the religion of the American missionaries ; and when they preach to Armenians in Turkish, the Turks come in to hear and learn the way of salvation, though they would still be far from welcoming a missionary to an exclusively Turkish congregation.

The Turks are also purchasing many hundreds of the Bible, and reading them with intense interest. A Mohammedan Turk at the head of sixty villages had persecuted a Bible colporteur, when the colporteur gained access to him, testifying that he was only circulating God's inspired word. "Let me hear then," said the proud Turk, "from the prophet Moses." As he listened, he at length asked for the Psalms, and then for the prophets, and then for the gospels, and then the epistles, till the colporteur had read to him *eight hours*, when he told the colporteur to go on in his work, and assured him that if again molested, he would be his protector.

Mr. Hamlin said that, eighteen years ago, he attempted the establishment of his school amid "a shower of stones ;" and he came away amid "a shower of tears"—such are the changes which God has wrought.

Rev. J. W. PARSONS, whose labors have been transferred from

Smyrna to Baghchijuk, has reported the usefulness of books sent him and circulated at Smyrna, and requested a Pastor's Library and other books, as a grant for three churches in Baghchijuk, whose pastors read English, which have been sent.

The lamented Rev. C. N. RIGHTER, Bible agent in Turkey, embraced in his benevolent labors the supplying of the dépôt in Constantinople with the Society's publications, which had there been recently sold to the amount of about \$200, and in his last letter he ordered new supplies.

SYRIA.

In the holy providence of God, the Rev. ELI SMITH, D. D., who has been the faithful correspondent and coadjutor of the Society in Syria for more than twenty years, died at Beyrout, January 11, aged 55. The great work on his hands, which he was especially desirous to finish, was the issuing of the Arabic Bible in a version directly from the originals, a work for which he was peculiarly qualified by his accurate scholarship and familiarity with both Hebrew and Arabic. After eight years of incessant toil, the New Testament, the Pentateuch, the greater part of Isaiah, and the minor prophets from Hosea to Nahum, were finished; and his chief native assistant, who is familiar with Hebrew, Arabic, and Syriac, had written out most of the remainder, ready for Dr. Smith's revision. In order to secure the best Arabic type, Dr. Smith went to Germany and there superintended the casting of new founts, which happily have proved highly acceptable where the Arabic is read.

Dr. Smith was the well-known companion of Dr. Robinson, in his researches into "the biblical localities of the Holy Land, and by his careful examination and accurate Hebrew and Arabic scholarship, contributed an important part to the work which has become a standard in the civilized world." He also explored Armenia in company with Rev. Dr. Dwight, the result of whose inquiries form an interesting volume. He translated several publications issued at the expense of the American Tract Society, and for many years has been the Society's regular correspondent.

"A scholar, and largely acquainted with the world," says a letter from Beyrout, "he was still a very child in simplicity—loving all, laboring for all, and not ashamed of the most humble service. Accepting the gospel as the only true reformer of the world, he loved to preach it in the dark regions, scorning the philosophies which seek to supplant it. Many were his touching and edifying remarks.

Among others, he said he felt that he was a great sinner, but there was a greater Saviour; that he had no righteousness of his own, and relied entirely on the blood of Christ; that for aught he knew he had more friends in heaven than remaining on the earth, and soon he should be with them and all the holy in the presence of God. With such words, and farewells to his wife, his children, his fellow-laborers, and the native members of the church, he gently, and almost with smiles, breathed out his soul into the bosom of his Saviour and his God."

In his last letter, May 2, after stating that the claims of the translation of the Bible upon his enfeebled health forbade his preparing D'Aubigné's History and other works, to be issued with the funds of this Society, he adds, "Not long ago I received a handsome copy of your very valuable memoir of Dr. Edwards, a memento of friendship, reaching back to the time when we used to sit at the same table, within the sphere of his so successful pastoral labors. Thank you, dear brother; God bless you for your long-continued fraternal love. How long before we shall sit down at another table, where he has already found a place before us? Pray for me, that I may not come short of that blessedness."

Mr. George C. Hurter reports that they had recently printed the Scripture Reading-Book, Henry and his Bearer, and a tract on Repentance, and on Intemperance.

NESTORIANS OF PERSIA.

From this mission also death has removed a faithful laborer and accomplished scholar, Rev. D. T. STODDARD, whose special endeavors were devoted to the education and salvation of the young.

The Rev. Dr. PERKINS has sent specimens of the Saints' Rest, Green Pastures for the Lord's Flock containing a passage of Scripture with practical remarks for each day, Scripture Facts, and Barth's Church History, all in Nestorian or modern Syriac. These works had been received with great interest by the people. Doddridge's Rise and Progress was also ready for the press, and he was translating the Call to the Unconverted.

"A blessed office is yours," he says, "to scatter leaves of the tree of life over the land and the world. If any human instrumentality can help to save our loved country, among the most important is your honored Society, which causes the genial verdure of truth and life to spring up on every parched region. May the Lord guide, strengthen, and prosper you in this his own glorious work."

In the progress of the late war with Russia, the mission was in great danger, and for a time much interrupted in its work ; but recent intelligence is, that peace is restored, in no small degree through the influence of the Russian minister in Persia, and that the Moham-medan government is granting them not only toleration, but protection.

AFRICA.

Light seems unquestionably dawning on this benighted country. The combined missionary force from Europe and America which is assailing it is very great, and perhaps not less successful than missions in other parts of the world ; while the explorations of the English missionary Rev. Dr. Livingston, who in four expeditions has traversed 11,000 miles, and of others, reveal a vast interior with a salubrious climate and millions of inhabitants far more intelligent and hopeful in their character than multitudes found on the borders of the sea.

A letter from Rt. Rev. JOHN PAYNE, bishop at Cape Palmas, gratefully acknowledges the receipt of 500 copies of a volume of Scripture Questions translated by him into Grebo, and printed by the Society, in which the Foreign Committee of the Episcopal mission board concur by a resolution on their minutes.

Numerous grants of publications have been made to our various missions in Africa and to colonists, as also a set of publications to Rev. Mr. Campbell of the London mission at South Africa, who has recently visited the United States.

SOUTHERN INDIA.

At KOLAFUR, among the Mahrattas, Rev. R. G. Wilder reported that the Youth's Library granted to the "Native Library" association had been so useful that he requested a similar grant, which was forwarded, for another native library at Rutnagherry, to both of which, not only natives of India, but many resident Europeans resort. He had also translated the Theological Class-book, which had been printed in a volume of about 250 pages.

"We are much gratified," he says, "here in the Bombay presidency, by a recent government proclamation suppressing hook-swinging. The British government has always done, and is still doing so much to support idolatry—instance more than 1,700,000 rupees paid out of its treasury every year to the idols and temples throughout the land—that we greatly rejoice in any act tending to check the vile superstitions and cruel practices of this degraded people. The late act of government legalising the remarriage of Hindoo widows, is also a step in the right

direction ; and two recent marriages of such widows in Calcutta, both parties being members of the Hindoo aristocracy, certainly indicate much progress in the enlightenment and reformation of this people."

At MADURA, the Rev. William Tracy reports that more than 6,000 tracts have been distributed by the students and teachers at Passumalie, near which is a place of great reputed sanctity. A vast granite rock rises abruptly from the plain to the height of 450 feet, at the base of which stands a large temple consecrated to the Hindoo god of war, and near the top a temple to Genesa, the son of Siva, while the summit is crowned with a Mohammedan mausoleum of great repute. Monthly festivals are held at the larger temples, which attract crowds from every part of the district ; and twice a year a concourse of 60,000 to 80,000 persons, some of whom come hundreds of miles, to attend the feast. At the close of these festivals the teachers and students plant themselves on the roads radiating in different directions, and supply those of the returning pilgrims who can read. Mr. Tracy adds :

"We have distributed during the present year 29,294 tracts, which have gone into every part of our field, where they cannot fail of bringing forth fruit, precious fruit. Though the direct oral preaching of the gospel is the most important instrumentality for the conversion of the world, the diffusion of truth by means of tracts has also its peculiar advantages. The sneers of depraved men, the cavils of objectors, shame, and the pride of consistency, too often shut the heart against the truth which falls upon the outer ear, and make it unfruitful ; while a tract, hidden in the bosom, awakens no feelings of shame, calls forth no sneers or reproaches, but read and reread in the silence of home or the solitude of the field, its truths sink into the heart without observation, and watered by the dew of divine grace, bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

"I have reason to believe that the tracts distributed the present year have been given with care and discrimination, and that the good results will be large in proportion. One hundred and seventy-one persons have been admitted to our mission churches, on profession of their faith, during the year. What portion of these may have been first led to a knowledge of the truth by the perusal of tracts we cannot know, but to be one of many influences tending to such a result, is honor enough for any human instrumentality.

"One of our brethren in a part of the field where few comparatively can read, speaking of the distribution of books and tracts, says, 'This important instrumentality, though in this field necessarily limited to few persons, has not been without its fruits. Solitary cases have come to my notice in which this means has been blessed. Two now occur to me. One is that of a goldsmith, the other that of a dyer, who by reading our books and tracts have become convinced of the truth of Christianity, have renounced their heathen religion, and have joined the Christian congregation during the year. I have also seen bazaar-men sitting in their bazars reading the Scriptures and tracts which we have distributed. One boy who keeps a small bazaar, came to us for books, and on asking him if he could read, he replied, 'No, but I can get my customers and those who stand about my bazaar to read to me.'"

, In CEYLON, the Rev. Levi Spaulding reports a series of twelve monthly tracts issued, of which he says, "We have circulated them freely and widely, and believe that they have been well received, and in several cases have stirred up a spirit of inquiry. I see no cause for discouragement in this work. Each instrumentality may effect but little, and all united much less than those who 'walk by sight, and not by faith,' are inclined to demand; still, there is an *onward* progress.

"The movement of the East India Company on the subject of education, and the actually printed and translated parts of the first and most ancient of the four vedas—now for the first time allowed to be seen by the soodras—have aroused the native mind, which has for ages been stereotyped, above its former level; and with well-directed effort on the part of the missionaries and Missionary Societies, in preaching, in teaching, and in the distribution of Bibles and Tracts, with the blessing of God, may in a few years work such changes in India as will astonish even Christendom. I consider it no enthusiasm to expect great changes here, when the churches at home shall send us men and means in proportion to the population now in India, who are just waking up from a thousand years' sleep.

"We have now ready in manuscript our enlarged and improved edition of 'Scripture History,' or chronological synopsis of the Bible, in Bible language. We shall want funds for an edition of 2,000 or more. The last edition was 30,000."

At MADRAS, in the absence of the Rev. Mr. Winslow on his visit to this country, Mr. Hunt reports that a beautiful edition of 10,000 of the "Jewel Mine of Salvation" had just been issued in Tamul, costing about \$680.

At GUNTOOR, the Rev. C. W. Grønning, of the Lutheran mission, reports new tracts printed by the Tract Society at Vizagapatam, the "Christian Atonement," the "Nature of True Religion," "the Everlasting Gospel," and "the History of Salvation," in poetry. A tract was also in preparation for the doubting, or desponding.

"During the year 1855," he says, "we have adopted the plan of sending tracts to each village of this district. A Christian teacher being employed in distributing to those who can read, first reads a part of the tracts and explains their contents, and then gives to such as seem interested in it. Much general knowledge is spread, and there is scarcely a village now where the word of life has not

been preached and distributed. Idolatry and heathen ceremonies sink rapidly in the estimation of the people ; but for new life, life of God our Saviour in general, we must wait until the Spirit from on high descend to breathe on India's sons and daughters. May the time be soon at hand, and the seed bring forth fruit that shall remain."

The Rev. C. F. Heyer reports that a colporteur had "visited five hundred and thirteen villages, and circulated 893 portions of Teloogoo Scriptures, and 2,940 Teloogoo tracts."

At NELLORE, Rev. L. Jewett reports the faithful labors during the year of *Christian Nersu*, a native colporteur, and that the distribution of 4,000 tracts has been attended with a great amount of oral instruction, which it was hoped would result in an abundant harvest. Alas, he was called also to record the death of this devoted native Christian colporteur.

"Three persons," he says, "have been baptized the past year : two of these are men, heads of families ; the other is a lad, who possesses fine talents and a warm heart. These souls have been won to Christ by many influences combined. It is not in the power of man to say how much is due to colporteur agency, though, in our own view, it claims a prominent place.

"One of these men never read a tract, having never learned, yet the influences of many tracts have operated upon his soul. It is seven years since he first heard of Christ. While he was passing our chapel, with his web of cloth for sale, Nersu hailed him, took him to his own house that night, and the next morning came with him to the mission-house for further instruction. The man, a weaver by trade, on taking leave for his village, promised to take his loom, and come to reside in Nellore. His relatives opposed and defeated his purpose. The next time he came to market with his cloth, he determined to steal through the place unperceived ; but in this he was disappointed : Nersu discovered him, and reproved him for violating his promise 'like all the Hindoos.' From that day Nersu followed him, instructed him, prayed with him, and after a long season of patient waiting, saw the blessing of God crowning his labors.

"It was an interesting day when we repaired to Anarreddy-palem to welcome him to the number of Christ's flock, by an open profession of his faith in the presence of his villagers ; but our joy was tempered with sorrow. Nersu, who has attended me in so many tours among the Telugus the last eight years, whom I have heard preach to his people so often with such fervor and eloquence—Nersu was not present to witness this public ingathering of the first-fruits in the village of Anarreddy-palem. His last day's labor was performed by my side, in the front verandah of our chapel, September 28, 1856. The efforts of that day were followed by bleeding at the lungs in the evening. He sunk rapidly till November 12, when he fell asleep in Jesus.

"Nersu had reason to place confidence in tract distribution. Four tracts, which a man had brought from Madras, first awakened him to see that idolatry is a lie, and that Christianity or the faith system, is the only religion for man. At that time he could not read a word. He sought out a reader, and then inquired for the missionary ; he learned to read the Bible, and found peace and joy in the Saviour it reveals."

GENERAL BAPTIST MISSION IN ORISSA.

The Rev. J. STUBBINS writes from Cuttack, April 2. After affectionately alluding to the lamented Rev. Dr. Sutton, and reporting the operations of the press, he says, "I have labored in Orissa nearly twenty years, and have felt it my duty extensively to itinerate in the district, and to visit the busy markets and the crowded festivals. There has not been a year in which I have not travelled several hundred miles, and I regard tracts as an essential accompaniment. The living voice of the preacher, proclaiming the wonders of redeeming love, is heard by many, and alas, is but too often forgotten; but these little messengers speak when he is silent, or absent. It has often been to me a gratifying scene, when I have been returning worn with fatigue from a market or festival, to see the people leisurely walking along reading a book that may have been given to them, or a number of them collected in a group under a tree, reading and conversing together about this new and wonderful doctrine of 'Jesus' dying for sinners, dying for us too.' Time was when the people were afraid to receive them; but now they are so anxious for them, that we are pressed almost beyond measure when we attempt to distribute them. Some of our native ministers have been up this year as far as Sumbhu Yure, a distance of about 250 miles. On their way, they met with numerous instances in which the people had received books at Pooree, and had committed large portions of them to memory. They tell me if they had had tons, especially of the *Destroyer of Delusion*, and new selection of Hymns, they could have disposed of them. In one place, several people wept because there were none left, and entreated them to send some from Cuttack. During this last season we heard of two men who had become so acquainted with the truth from the perusal of tracts, that with their dying breath they warned their families and friends to trust no longer in idols, which could not save, but in Him who had died on the cross to save them, even in Jesus Christ. On one occasion, the friends refused to touch the body of one who thus died. They said he had died a Christian, and they should be defiled if they touched him. In several places we have found little communities who are in the habit of meeting together periodically to read, and sing, and pray."

The Society's aid to this mission is very gratefully acknowledged in letters from the Rev. J. C. Pike, Quorndon, near Loughborough, England, who succeeds his father, Rev. J. G. Pike, as secretary of the *Missionary Society*.

NORTHERN INDIA.

The printing operations of the large missions in Northern India, under the care of the General Assembly's Board, have been efficiently prosecuted the last year; the expenditure for publications approved by the Publishing Committee considerably exceeding the Society's appropriations.

At *Allahabad*, the Rev. L. G. Hay, who has special responsibility for the press, reports the issuing of 5,000 of the "Hindoo Objections Refuted," 84 pages; 5,000 of "Dharm Tulu," 68 pages, a new revised edition of a valuable Tract written by one of the missionaries; 1,000 of "Jagat ki Ulpat," 134 pages, a familiar exposition of the first chapters of Genesis, also written by one of the missionaries—all the above being in *Hindi*. Also 2,000 each of the "Peep of Day" in *Urdu* (or Hindostani) *Roman* character, and in *Urdu Arabic* character; 2,000 of "Lectures on Theology," written by one of the native assistants, very simple and well adapted by its illustrations to native readers, 648 pages, in *Urdu Arabic* character; and 2,000 of "Majmua Manzuma," a small catechism of 26 pages in verse, an excellent book for children, written by the author of "Dharm Tulu" above. The cost of all these books amounts to \$4,578 87, but it is expected that a part of them will be sold, and the receipts for such sales will be credited on the accounts of the mission with the Society.

Rev. Mr. Hay, who writes in behalf of the publication committee appointed by the mission, (which now embraces the stations at *Allahabad*, *Futtehgurh*, *Mynpurie*, and *Agra*, and the branch station at *Futtepore*), says of the above publications, "We hope that all of them may do great good: they are sent to all our missionaries throughout the north-western provinces, and in the upper part of Bengal. As these books become more generally known by European residents, they call forth expressions of interest. Not long since a civilian here who had scarcely ever seen our book depository, on inspecting it and seeing what good might be accomplished by these Tracts, at once ordered 200 rupees' worth, which he wished distributed at his own expense. Another gentleman (a clergyman of the church of England) on receiving a small box of our publications, at once sent a donation of 80 rupees to our book depository, with warm thanks and expressions of interest in our work. The 'Peep of Day' in both dialects (*Hindi* and *Urdu*) is in great demand, warmly welcomed by all missionaries as a valuable help in their work."

At *Lodiana* the Hon. Mr. Lowrie, secretary, reports that 7,000

copies each of Vol. 1 of Hindi Tracts, 148 pages, and Vol. 2, 144 pages, have been printed, and the third and fourth editions, each 1,000, of the Bible History in Urdu, Persian character, 140 pages; the cost of the above at 15 pages for a cent being \$1,549 33. "These volumes and Bible History are composed of Tracts heretofore approved by the Tract Society."

Select publications of the Society in English have been ordered from time to time at the stations in Northern India, and a full set was recently granted to Rev. J. H. Morrison for the new station he is now occupying at Ráwal Pindi, among the Afghans, a military post, where are many English readers.

The reports from the several missions in Northern India present a most cheering view of the efficient instrumentalities employed for establishing the gospel in that vast portion of the kingdom of darkness, and grounds of confidence that God will bless them in greatly extending the boundaries of the Redeemer's kingdom.

BURMAH.

From the mission press depository at Maulmain, there were issued from July 1, 1856, to September 1, 1856, besides Scriptures and school-books, for Maulmain 8,760 copies, Shwaygyeen 785, Toungoo 1,000, Bassein 622, Henthada 865, Prome 930, Rangoon 2,895, Akyab 1,216, Tavoy 5; in all, 18,078 publications, or 680,319 pages. The total issues from the depository at Maulmain for six years have been: in 1851, 3,288,729 pages; in 1852, 2,598,186; in 1853, 2,754,626; in 1854, 3,445,850; in 1855 and 1856, 10,055,836 pages; showing a large increase of issues within the last 15 months.

The Rev. C. BENNETT, who is now superintendent of the press, wrote in January, 1856, "There has been, and still is a marvellous work of grace in the region about Toungoo, most especially among the Karens. In some of the villages, Mr. Whitaker writes, where the people when they first assembled to hear the word of God, came armed with their knives and spears, which they held in their hands for defence, they have now laid them aside. In many places where formerly there was no intercourse from village to village, except for plunder upon each other, roads have been opened, and they now meet together to worship the God of peace and mercy. Where, two or three years ago, there were *none* who could read in their own language, now there are some thousands. Churches and schools have been established, and there is now a community of more than

10,000 nominal Christians ; and the cry for books is unparalleled in the history of our missions."

He adds, that of one of this Society's tracts, of which 5,000 had been printed a few weeks, every copy had been sent out, and there was a great call for others. Mr. Whitaker had been out in the jungle for two months, where no white man had ever been before, and says, "The population now crying for books here, cannot be much less than 14,000 ; and if God blesses us as abundantly for two years to come, as he has for two years past, we see not but it may then be 50,000."

The following truly wonderful statement made by Mrs. Mason when recently in this country, of the blessing of God on the mission to the Karens, must cheer every Christian heart.

"God will have the glory. The Karen mission is one of the most successful in the world ; yet it was not commenced in the wisdom of man, but was thrust upon him by the hand of God. The Burman mission had been in existence fifteen years, and the Karens were unnoted till a poor stupid old debtor-slave, Ka-thah-byu, in the family of a Burmese Christian, sprung to newness of life from the crumbs that fell from his master's table. This was in 1828. Early in 1833, when he went to Rangoon, there had been 157 Karens baptized in the Tenasserim provinces ; and in November of the same year, he brought in the first-fruits of the Karens in Burmah Proper, and they were baptized by the Burmese pastor in Rangoon. Up to 1840, five different Karen missionaries resided in succession, for short periods, in Rangoon, and baptized many 'converted by Karen assistants ;' but from that period to 1852, when the English took possession of Pegu, the natives were left nearly wholly to themselves, and the work of conversion, which was constantly in progress, was carried on exclusively by native preachers. The Karen communicants, in 1852, were 6,673, of whom 1,647 belonged to the Tenasserim provinces.

"In 1853, Mr. Mason and myself went to Toungoo, in the centre of Burmah, to found a new mission among the Bghais, or as designated by some, Red Karens, and two other new tribes that had never before heard the gospel. Multitudes received the word with gladness ; and I left the mission in charge of Sau Quala, Ka-thah-byu's first convert, then an unnoted stripling—now the most successful preacher among all the sons of the East. During the two years that have since elapsed, he has laid the foundation of 28 new churches, baptized 1,880 converts, qualified a considerable number of school-teachers, and all without calling on the Board for a single dollar. He

writes, that the congregations provide for the wants of himself and other assistants, and last year, in addition, made a generous subscription to the funds of the Board. The present number of Karen communicants is about 12,000, but the most interesting feature in the mission is, that the work has been mainly carried forward by the natives themselves. It has been effected through the blessing of God on an indigenous ministry, educated in the vernacular tongue."

Supplies of the Society's publications in English, especially those for the young, have been ordered by Rev. A. J. Rose at Rangoon, and proved highly acceptable to those who read our language.

FROM A COLPORTEUR NOW A MISSIONARY IN BURMAH.

The Rev. Thomas Allen wrote from Tavoy, March, 1856: "You may have forgotten me, who in the summers of 1848 and 1849 served the Society as a colporteur; but I have not forgotten you, nor the Society. I was at that time a member of Madison University, and anticipating the pleasure of one day entering a foreign field. The desire of my heart has been fulfilled. I have been permitted already to labor three years for the perishing heathen, and I can say of a truth, that among all the means I employed for eight years to prepare myself for the work in which I am now engaged, none have answered the end so well as the labors of the colporteur. I shall never regret having labored as a colporteur, *if for no other reason than as a preparative to the labors of a missionary.*

"I would very much like a box of books and tracts for distribution in Tavoy. I think that even in this idolatrous city there is a door opened for usefulness by means of the Society's publications. Large numbers of the young are acquiring a free use of the English language, and their thirst for easy reading English books is great. As yet they have received none to my knowledge but what has been supplied them by missionaries, and of course of a good moral character. But should works of an immoral character be offered in the market, there is reason to fear that they would find a too ready sale.

"You are no doubt aware that the 'Child's Book on the Soul,' and 'On Repentance,' have been translated into Burmese by Mrs. Bennett, and are now widely circulated. They are, I have reason to believe, doing much good. They are subjects on which the Burmese have the most vague and incorrect ideas. Now, if I could put into the hands of some of the young men a copy of both in English and Burman, they would be most sure to be read. I would sell where I could, and only give away where wisdom dictates. May the blessing

of God continue for years to come, as it has for years past, to rest upon your noble Society."

ASSAM.

The Rev. A. H. DANFORTH wrote from Sibsagor in September, reporting as printed in Assamese, the Pilgrim's Progress, 286 pages; Barth's Bible Stories, 260 pages; History of Joseph and Journeyings of the Israelites, 182 pages; Account of the Creation and Fall, 90 pages; the Holy Incarnation, Pundit and Preacher, Letter to Mohammedans, True Refuge, Error Refuted, and Miscellaneous Hymns; amounting in all to \$1,036 88. He expresses an earnest desire to employ *Assamese colporteurs* to distribute the books and make known the gospel, and believes their small monthly paper, which has about 200 paying subscribers, is useful. He adds, "We cannot speak of great prosperity in our mission: the soil is hard, and we have few laborers; but the work is the Lord's, and he will hasten it in its time."

SIAM.

The Rev. SAMUEL J. SMITH, of the Baptist mission, wrote in October, cordially consenting to act as a member of the Examining Committee for publications in Siamese, and reporting expenditures, including loss of books consumed by the late fire; and stating that a number of valuable approved Siamese Tracts are now out of print, the issuing of which would require all the funds of the Society now in the hands of the mission.

After alluding to governmental restrictions, which he regards as more embarrassing because no United States consul is now resident at Bangkok, Rev. Mr. Smith says, "I have now received a permanent pass to travel when and where I please as a teacher of the Christian religion, within the prescribed limits of 24 hours' journey from the city of Bangkok, and I hope to be engaged in the good work of travelling, preaching, and distributing books in the prescribed limits more freely than ever, if health, the pecuniary embarrassments of our Board, and repeated and urgent calls for retrenchment, do not render the doing so impossible.

"The afternoon of each day is reserved for the distribution of books in the tract-room, and also in different parts of the city, as weather, health, and other circumstances will permit. If I am absent visiting different parts of the city, some one is left in the tract-room to give books to all the applicants who can read. As, how-

ever, we have but few specimens of books on hand, our circulation of them is necessarily somewhat limited.

"One man has obtained and read copies of nearly every work (Tracts and Scriptures) that have been printed by the different missions. The attentive perusal of the books that have been given him, have created in him a desire to hear the word, and for more than a year past he has been a frequent attendant at the place of preaching. He says he is a believer in Jesus, wishes to be recognized as one of his disciples, and has made application to one of the missionaries to that effect. He frequently asks for books to distribute among his friends. Some of the members of the church connected with our mission continue to distribute books as usual in their respective communities. 'Old Testament History,' 'Hints to the Wise,' 'Summary of Christianity,' 'Hymn-book' and 'Siamese Christian Almanac,' are standard works, of which new editions are much needed."

The Presbyterian mission in Siam, letters from which have been unexpectedly delayed, had reported, one year since, printing chiefly at the Society's expense, to the amount of 1,720,000 pages.

CHINA.

Every year presents some new phase in the developments of divine Providence, as to the wonderful people who speak and read the various dialects of the Chinese language, and who probably constitute not far from one-third of the inhabitants of the globe. The hopes entertained by many of a direct advance in the diffusion of evangelical truth by the influence of Tae-ping-wang and other sanguinary leaders and parties of the recent insurrection appear to be diminishing, while a powerful influence exerted by them to weaken the bonds of idolatry may be seen by the omniscient eye. So of the present collision with Great Britain, the vast destruction of lives and property in Canton, including the premises of the missions of the American Board of Commissioners and the Presbyterian Board, and other painful events occurring, God may see how to overrule these evils for good, dark and mysterious as they now are to his people.

CANTON AND HONG KONG.

Dr. S. WELLS WILLIAMS, of the mission of the American Board at Canton, who on account of the disturbances had retired to Macao, wrote January 26, a short time after his own house had been burned

at Canton, reporting the expenditure of \$466 80, and adds, "Last spring we looked over the entire stock of blocks on hand, and found them utterly unfit to print any more, some of them having been used to the extent of 25,000 impressions. They were all planed off, therefore, and arrangements made for a new edition of the best. Three have already been cut by contract with native booksellers, and we shall reissue all the good ones as we have funds, and can get them well done. It is undesirable to put this kind of work into the hands of too many persons, for it is rather an experiment still, and evil-minded people could easily stop it altogether. The tracts issued the past year have amounted to about 23,000 volumes, at an average, including the blocks, of nearly two cents each; I think too, their appearance has been worth the increased expense, and a neat-looking book is more thought of.

"Our printing operations are suspended for the time, but we hope to be able to return to Canton in a few months on a better footing, and resume operations in mission labors with encouraging prospects, after this storm has blown over.

"The blocks for the tracts we had cut have been saved, and perhaps we shall be able to get copies struck off in Macao, though I cannot hope to do so to much extent. After this bitter strife has ceased, perhaps the ground may be found better prepared for receiving the good seed, and the hearts of the Cantonese made more ready to listen to the truth."

The annual report of the mission gives an interesting notice of tours for tract distribution in the interior, in which the faithful native assistant, Chin, has taken an active part.

"Intimately connected with the preaching of the gospel, is the distribution of the Scriptures and of tracts. Most of the attendants on the daily service in the chapel, are supplied with the portion of Scripture or the tract under consideration. Others are given to persons passing, who cannot or will not stop, and some, after service, to those who wish additional copies to give away. About one hundred books are thus distributed every day.

"Mr. Williams has held a service on Sabbath morning, with his printers and servants, at his own house, and much of the time a third service on Sabbath afternoon, at the chapel of the Southern Baptist mission. The work of the printing office has been continued as usual. Mr. Williams' Tonic dictionary of this dialect, on which he has been engaged during six years, is drawing towards completion. All the missionaries in this field are looking with great interest for its appearance, believing that it will be a help in the acquisition of the language, at least equal to all which they now possess.

"Mr. Vrooman has made several extended tours by boat, to distances of thirty or forty miles, and in one recent instance to a distance of nearly two hundred miles, in a westerly direction from Canton. These tours have in all cases been undertaken

for the purpose of distributing our Christian books, and in every case the way has been found clear and the door open. The most interesting and extended trip was one made in April, in company with Rev. C. W. Gaillard, of the Southern Baptist Board. They penetrated into the country west one hundred and ninety miles, far beyond the limits previously reached by Protestant missionaries in any of their tours. This tour has been almost invaluable to us in the way of a precedent, and also as showing the opening, which has been growing insensibly wider and wider, for our entrance into the country. It is hardly possible that this tour could have been made openly, even three years ago; much less, that it could have been prosecuted after the interference of the officials. The disposition of the people has proved to be everywhere kind and friendly; the hostility of the provincial city, with its abuse and insult, not appearing in these distant villages. We may hope that the fact of two foreign teachers having gone so far without trespassing in the least on any one's rights, or transgressing any of the laws of propriety, will not be lost on a population whose ideas of our character are based on reports growing out of much unjustifiable conduct on the part of foreigners in days gone by. In Canton itself, better acquaintance has modified the views of many, and where we are quite unknown we may hope to give the first and that a favorable impression. Even officials found it convenient to admit the plea that those who are engaged in a peaceful and useful work should not be molested or hindered. During this trip, above eleven thousand books were distributed, over an extent of country at least one hundred miles in length, with almost countless villages, and some very important cities, including the ancient capital of the province. This trip furnishes ground for strong hopes and enlarged expectations."

Rev. C. W. GAILLARD, of the Southern Baptist mission, reports that he expended \$187 35 the last year for tracts, a part of which he printed, and a part procured from other missions.

The Hon. Mr. LOWRIE, secretary, reported in February that the Presbyterian mission had expended \$100; but that "the entire mission and personal property was burned up. Not even their private papers were saved."

The Rev. I. J. ROBERTS reports the expenditure of \$82 06. In a previous letter he says of the progress of events in China, "This day, nineteen years ago, I landed in China, the darkest period of China's moral night. The laws of the land then prohibited the preaching of the gospel. Leang Afah had been persecuted and fled the country, and I was advised to leave also. Since then, however, I have had the privilege of studying the language, and pioneering the gospel among the people in Macao, Hong Kong, and Canton; of baptizing twelve Chinese, two of whom I hope are now in heaven. The treaty enlarging opportunities of usefulness, was made in Nanking in 1842; religious toleration granted in 1844; Tae-Ping-Wang taught by me in 1847; and now the gospel, in 1856, is preaching under the superintendence of eighty-eight missionaries, in five open ports, Hong Kong, and the interior, all of whom are at liberty to

locate with their families among the people. 'What hath God wrought' within these nineteen years !"

At HONG KONG, the Rev. J. W. Johnson reports \$230 68 expended chiefly by two faithful colporteurs, *A-Sun* and *A-ee*, who have been called to suffer persecution for Christ's sake. He writes Dec. 10 :

"Our two faithful brethren *A-Sun* and *A-ee* have, since August, been in prison. These brethren, who have been regarded for several years as your colporteurs, left us in May last with a supply of tracts and Scriptures, to travel through the north-east department of the Quang-tung province, known as *Chau-chau*, their native district, to distribute books and preach, as they had opportunity, in parts that had been hitherto unvisited. They were arrested on the 19th of August, with the Rev. W. C. Burns of the English Presbyterian mission, who was at the time travelling with them. Our excellent brother Burns, after a detention of two weeks, and some suffering in prison, was sent overland to Canton and released ; but the native brethren were retained in prison, and have not yet been liberated. Indeed, I begin to feel apprehensive they will never be released. Latterly they have been called to suffer severely for the name of Jesus. They have each of them received forty blows upon the mouth, at an examination before the district magistrate, for the faithful testimony they bore in favor of the gospel, its excellency and power in contrast with the teachings of Confucius, and as alone able to save the soul.

"For some time after they were imprisoned, they had daily worship with some of their fellow-prisoners, and the gaol attendants ; one of whom, they think, affords evidence of a saving faith in Christ, and others seem to be earnestly studying the Scriptures. They had with them when arrested several bags of tracts, all of which they have been able to distribute among the prisoners and officials, and the crowd who came to see them. They are in bonds, '*but the word of God is not bound.*' And their imprisonment seems to have been ordained as the means of communicating the truth to both rulers and people, who otherwise would not have heard of it, and of leading some precious souls to Christ. And that blessed Saviour in whom they trust, in whom, in the face of reproach and persecution, they have been enabled to glory, has not forsaken them. As the sufferings of Christ abound in them, so their consolation also aboundeth by Christ. They seem wonderfully supported and strengthened. Mr. Burns is again at *Soo-ton*, and three of the native brethren are also in the country to see what can be done for their relief and release. Our only hope is on high. May our covenant God undertake for them."

AMOY AND FUH-CHAU.

At AMOY, Rev. Mr. Doty reports that they were reprinting editions of several standard Tracts ; and states that their method of distributing is to give, usually as an auxiliary to the word preached, only to those who can read, and who give reason to believe that they will do so. He adds, "Tracts have been blessed as one of the means in furthering the precious work of grace we have been enjoying for the two and a half past years. Nor have we yet been forsaken. There are those, both at Amoy and also at the stations in the interior, who are asking the way to Zion, or to be numbered with the professed people of God.

"In addition to this general state of encouragement, an interesting—a few years ago, we would have said, a marvellous spiritual awakening has taken place in another market-town some eight miles farther inland than Peh-chui-ia, the place where this precious work of grace first began in January, 1854. We have also encouraging evidence that the leaven of the gospel is working in individual cases in many places around us. Our native agencies, which combine the offices of evangelist and colporteur, find a wonderful readiness to hear their message and listen to their instructions wherever they go. Seldom do they anywhere meet with other than a welcome reception, both as to their teaching and their books.

"Thus has the Master laid the work to our hands. The harvest is widening, growing, and ripening around us. May we have grace, in faith, patience, and with diligence, to cultivate and watch over the growth; and then, with adequate labors, a far greater gathering in will be enjoyed, than it has yet been our privilege to witness. The Lord's arm is not shortened that it cannot save, nor his ear heavy that it cannot hear. Let him so work that the excellency of the power may manifestly be of himself, and to him let all the glory be given."

At FUH-CHAU, the Rev. Justus Doolittle reports the issuing of a Tract on Gambling as ruinous for this life and destructive to the soul; and the conversion of an educated man, who labors as a school-teacher and assistant in chapel. "Several others," he says, "express themselves as anxious to be saved, and some of them are known to be in the habit of prayer."

Rev. Mr. Baldwin, after alluding to the labors of Mr. Doolittle in "distributing tracts and books from shop to shop, and selling them at reduced prices in the public streets, accompanied with explanations and answering objections," relates to the mission Board the distributions at the *literary examinations* held in Fuh-chau in September and November. "Ten thousand copies of books in the classical style were distributed to the literary candidates, and three thousand to the military, as they came from the examination hall. You may be aware that candidates for the above-mentioned degree assemble from every part of this province, and that books in the reading style would therefore be readily understood. On the supposition that these volumes are preserved and taken to their homes, the truth is diffused throughout a province containing a population variously estimated from eight to fifteen millions."

NINGPO.

The Rev. R. Q. WAY, of the Presbyterian mission, reports as printed at the expense of the Society 12,000 each of four Tracts; 9,000 each of three others; 1,500 of another, and of the Easy Introduction to the Gospel 20,000; amounting in all to \$829 99. "Matters remain pretty much at a stand," he says, "in reference to the rebellion, and also to our work. In some respects, however, there are encouraging tokens, and we are not wholly without evidence of the divine blessing."

The Rev. JOHN C. LORD of the Baptist mission reports, as a member of the Society's Examining Committee for Northern China, four new tracts for approval, and makes valuable suggestions as to the state of events, and the desirableness of a proposed list of all the tracts which have been hitherto printed in China.

"It is comforting," he says, "to know that God reigns, and that amid all this turmoil and strife, when he speaks his voice must be heard. The clouds are dark and portentous, but we know there is light behind them, and that when it shall be for our good it will break forth. Our loving Father will not always chide, neither will he keep his anger for ever. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

"Our tract operations for the year now ended have been rather limited, owing in part to the fewness of our laborers, and in part to their inability to do much at itinerating. However, books are needed, and the demand for them will increase as the people are brought more and more under the influence of Christianity. A great work is to be accomplished in giving to the millions of China a Christian literature, and in this work I trust your Society will continue to feel a deep and lively interest.

"There is naturally much interest felt at home in regard to the political state of this country, and a variety of conflicting opinions seem to be entertained both in reference to the rebellion and its probable consequences. You will scarcely wonder at this when I tell you that among us who live so near the scene of strife, and who have the means of obtaining information, if any have, there is little more certain knowledge or uniformity of opinion. The fact is, the most intelligent and sober-minded men now in China know not what to expect, because they do not and cannot know what the state of affairs really is. Some are hoping for the success, and some for the overthrow of the insurgents; but none but enthusiasts, and those who

are never in doubt about any thing, *know* what will be. For my own part I have but little anxiety about the matter. I think there is little to hope from either party, so far as concerns the spread of the gospel. Both parties are alike pagans, and alike idolaters in every thing essential to paganism or idolatry. That good will come out of this revolution I have no doubt; but I believe there is but very little good in it."

SHANGHAI.

The Rev. E. W. SYLE, of the Protestant Episcopal mission, who after three years' absence in the United States, has resumed his labors in Shanghai, reports the expenditure of \$180 33, and the probability that the balance now in the hands of the mission will be expended within the ensuing year. He encloses the following kind note from Bishop BOONE:

"REV. AND DEAR BROTHER—I add a line to Mr. Syle's letter to you. We are all delighted to have him back in Shanghai again. Our small expenditure of tract money, for the last three years, is owing mainly to two causes: first, we have had no printing-press of our own, and brethren have refused to send us in bills for tracts furnished us. This has been largely the case from Ningpo in more recent years, and from the London press formerly: now, however, all are able to distribute what they can print, and we shall have bills for all we buy. Second, exchange has been so very adverse that we have been hard up for funds, until our friends in New York could realize how much they had to send to put us in possession of a Shanghai dollar. We are all right however by next mail, I hope, and will use up all your funds pretty much this Chinese new-year. We have now three presbyters, two American and two Chinese deacons, and we may hope to do much in the way of distributing divine truth among the myriads around us during the next year."

The Rev. Dr. BRIDGMAN, of the mission of the American Board, reports the thanks of the mission for the Society's grant, and requests a set of the Society's publications, which have been sent. He had translated the book of Psalms, and hoped by and by to have a book of Chinese psalmody; for he says, "We have some, a few, who love sacred poetry, and who sing songs of Zion with the heart and understanding."

The Rev. A. B. CABANISS, of the Southern Baptist mission, states that the destruction of the mission-houses in the war, for which the

Chinese government paid the mission, caused interruptions in their trips for tract distribution while they were rebuilding.

"Though confined to Shanghai during 1855, we were enabled," he says, "to keep up regular preaching at three places in the city, and we have some evidence that our labor was not in vain. We baptized several valuable members, and another person whom we think is converted now wishes to join us. One of the members proves to be a poet, and has rendered us most valuable aid in writing some hymns in the Shanghai dialect, which were very much needed. We now have four chapels, where we have regular preaching when we are all well. We also have five schools, three male and two female. Every thing is quiet in this region, and missionaries can go from one to two hundred miles into the interior, if they will act discreetly as they go along."

The Rev. G. W. BARTON in February reported \$238 39 expended. "We have translated the tract called *The Two Friends* into the Mandarin dialect, and also bought for distribution here two thousand copies of a pictorial Bible History, published at the Presbyterian press at Ningpo. Our books are eagerly sought after, even here where large numbers are distributed by the different missions, and when we go to villages and cities unoccupied as missionary stations we have to use care to avoid personal injury from the pressure of the crowds in their anxiety to obtain them."

SANDWICH ISLANDS—MICRONESIA.

Mr. N. CASTLE, at Honolulu, states that their annual issue of 15,000 of the *Daily Food*, portions of Scripture, was omitted in 1855, but was printing for 1856. They had also issued tracts on Repentance, Parental Duties, etc.

The Rev. Mr. COAN, at Hilo, acknowledges a new shipment of books for whale-ships touching at that port, for whom he labors "as they that must give account."

"And still they come," he says, "your good letters—those healing leaves, those rays of light, those morning beams spread from the orb of day, those harbingers of a coming Messiah, those 'good tidings for all people!' They are a part of the appointed and marshalled forces of Jehovah, by which the mountains are levelled, the valleys exalted, the crooked ways made straight, the rough places smooth, the seas and rivers dried up, a highway prepared for the Redeemer and the ransomed of Zion, and the glory of the Lord revealed to all nations. We hail your tracts and publications, and it is our joy to scatter them over a dark ocean of sin.

"It is a great comfort to be permitted, through the channel of your Society, to

draw on the treasures of our common Lord in the prosecution of his work; and especially to see fruit gathered from the good seed sown. This we do during every shipping season, and in our hospital, and among our neighbors. Under a preached gospel, and the reading of evangelical books, our little foreign community is, we trust, improving in knowledge, in morals, and religion. Some have of late commenced a new mode of life, and we hope they have been renewed by the Spirit of life from God. Time, however, tests all; if not, eternity will.

"I have read with great interest your Memoir of Dr. Edwards. He was eminently a good man. His eye was *single*, his purpose *one*. What an amount of labor and of good he performed! You pray, beloved brother, that I may live long, and toil much more in our Master's vineyard. Many thanks for your prayer. I *reciprocate* it."

In the MICRONESIAN islands the Society's publications have been found useful to seamen and others, and further liberal grants have been made, at the request of Rev. E. S. Doane of Ascension Island.

THE NEW WORLD OF AUSTRALIA.

This immense island, Australia or New Holland, lying chiefly in the southern temperate zone, and nearly three times as large as the territory of the United States east of the Mississippi, may yet become prominent among the great nations of the earth. The "New South Wales Religious Tract and Book Society," located at Sydney, on the eastern coast, recently held its *thirty-third* anniversary: their receipts the last year were more than \$10,000; the sales from their dépôt in Sydney exceeded \$5,000, and the sales by colporteurs amounted to \$2,600. Their secretary, Mr. James Comrie, writes a cheering letter opening the way for the circulation of this Society's publications in Australia; there being, he says, an urgent call for the Temperance Tracts and Manuals. We trust God has purposed in that vast country to raise up a great Christian nation, to diffuse the blessings of the gospel over the benighted millions of Asia, and the world.

Dr.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY IN

1857			
April 1,	Paid since April 1, 1856, for paper-----		\$101,431 46
	Printing and stereotyping-----		32,046 48
	Printing-press, and repairs on machinery-----		2,336 16
	Printing steel engravings, maps, and cards-----		3,227 95
	Engraving and designs-----		5,722 00
	Copy-rights, and preparing publications-----		1,713 00
	Translating, revising, and editing the German Messenger-----		715 75
	Preparing Family Christian Almanac-----		135 92
	Authors of articles for the American Messenger and Child's Paper, and assistance in editing Child's Paper-----		856 90
	Bibles-----		1,256 66
	Binding and materials-----		67,182 69
	Colportage—services of 754 Colporteurs and Superintendents, during the whole or a part of the year-----	\$74,903 16	
	Use of conveyances-----	9,271 60	
	Travelling expenses, meals and lodging, horse-keeping, and tolls-----	15,066 40	
	Freight-----	8,694 48	
	Postage-----	1,013 64	
	Stationery-----	493 19	
	Exchange, discount, and loss on uncurrent and broken bank-notes and counterfeits-----	623 90	
	Rent, insurance, fuel, light, fitting up and fixtures of Depositories for Superintendents, printing, advertising, and clerk hire-----	9,544 60	119,510 97
	Appropriations for foreign distribution-----		18,000 00
	Services of 29 General Agents, for raising funds and awakening an interest in behalf of the spiritual wants of the destitute-----	\$22,714 91	
	Travelling expenses, meals and lodging, horse-keeping, tolls, and ferriage-----	5,738 22	
	Freight-----	191 38	
	Postage-----	196 85	
	Stationery-----	93 37	
	Exchange, loss on uncurrent bank-notes and counterfeits-----	156 08	
	Rent of office-----	42 25	29,135 06
	Services of the Secretary of the Foreign and Publishing departments, and two assistants-----		3,200 00
	Secretaries of the Financial and Colporteur departments, and two assistants-----		5,633 31
	Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, and clerk-----		2,449 66
	Depository and eight assistants-----		5,361 00
	Clerk of American Messenger and Child's Paper and four assistants-----		2,811 06
	Boxes-----		1,909 96
	Expenses of General Depository and Store, for cartage, wrapping paper, twine, nails, and hoopng boxes-----		1,579 84
	Freight and expresses-----		97 19
	Duties-----		29 42
	Postage-----		504 81
	Insurance-----		2,663 50
	Taxes-----		1,576 62
	Exchange, discount, interest, and loss by counterfeits and broken banks-----		404 58
	Fuel for heating the building and for steam-engine-----		1,461 70
	Light-----		461 10
	Watchman and porter, care of the building, and Engineer for heating boiler-----		1,113 13
	Croton water-----		156 40
	Repairs, painting, plumbing, fixtures and furniture-----		2,150 57
	Stationery-----		378 92
	Books and periodicals-----		34 57
	Anniversary expenses-----		55 00
	Travelling expenses of Secretaries and Delegates-----		429 11
	Carriers of the American Messenger and Child's Paper-----		195 50
	Twine and wrapping paper for the American Messenger and Child's Paper-----		329 36
	Counsel and Commissioner's fees, and other legal expenses-----		445 55
	Advertising-----		218 24
	Total amount expended during the year-----		418,029 53
	Balance in the Treasury-----		3,965 89
			\$422,995 42

ACCOUNT WITH MOSES ALLEN, TREASURER.

Cr.

1857			
April 1,	Received since April 1, 1856, for publications sold: viz.		
	From Branches and Auxiliaries—exclusive of payments for the		
	American Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper-----	\$29,583 66	
	From Societies not auxiliary-----	3,687 26	
	From Agents and Colporteurs-----	152,646 29	
	From the Store, Booksellers, Missionaries, and individuals-----	29,181 21	
	For the American Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper-----	51,501 02	
			\$266,599 44
	Donations from Branches and Auxiliaries-----	\$8,748 26	
	To constitute Life Directors-----	10,830 24	
	To constitute Life Members-----	25,965 52	
	From Churches and individuals-----	86,296 95	
	Legacies-----	22,114 98	
	Total Donations, including \$41,944 04 specified for Colpor-		
	tage, and \$1,398 48 for Foreign distribution-----		153,965 95
			420,565 39
	Add balance in the Treasury, April 1, 1856-----		2,310 03
	Total-----		\$422,895 42

The undersigned, appointed by the American Tract Society to audit the accounts of their Treasurer, Mr. Moses Allen, have examined the accounts and vouchers from April 1, 1856, to April 1, 1857, and find that the above is correct, and that the balance in the Treasury is \$3,965 89. They also find that the Society is under engagements for Paper, due previous to October 1, 1857, \$20,769 24.

JACOB BROUWER, }
JAMES DONALDSON, } AUDITORS.

THE SOCIETY'S MEANS IN POSSESSION AND USE.

The Society has no permanent vested funds, or other property, besides its house and the ground it occupies, corner of Nassau and Spruce streets, New York; the machinery, printed sheets, paper, stereotype plates, engravings, and other materials in use in conducting its operations; the publications in its Depository and in the hands of colporteurs and others for circulation and sale; and stock or pledges to the amount of three or four thousand dollars not immediately available.

Its house, now valued, with the lot, by the city assessors at \$114,000, and on which is a debt of \$21,000, was erected, and has been rebuilt and enlarged, by means of \$25,852 95 originally contributed in New York for that specific object, and the proceeds of rents; the annual rent of parts of the building not occupied by the Society, April 1, 1857, being \$5,850, which is applied as a sinking fund to the reduction of the debt. Balance of rent fund in hand, \$186 10. The accounts for the building have always been kept distinct from those for the Society's general purposes.

The machinery, presses, and materials in the Tract-house for printing and binding are estimated to be worth for the Society's use \$67,772; sheet stock, paper, stereotype plates, and engravings, \$114,395; books in the Depository, \$79,999; books in the hands of colporteurs, \$119,528 18; due from auxiliaries and others, \$15,891 47, of which \$4,318 19 is due from foreign lands, chiefly in the hands of missionaries for sale and gratuitous distribution. Due for paper, as above, \$20,769 24; balance in the treasury, \$3,965 89.

Though the value of the above stock and materials may be as estimated for the Society's use, perhaps they would not bring one-half the amount at public sale; and as the stock of books, which is kept as small as consistent, must be constantly replenished, these means furnish the Society no ready money for other purposes. It has ever been the aim of the Society to supply the community at the lowest prices practicable, without diminishing its charitable resources.

1857 The Lists of the Society's Auxiliaries and Life Directors and Members having become so extensive, the Committee insert in this Report only those from which remittances have been received during the past year.

BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES.

REMITTANCES FOR TRACTS AND DONATIONS, APRIL 1, 1856, TO APRIL 1, 1857.

NAMES OF BRANCHES, AUXILIARIES, TREASURERS, ETC., APRIL 1, 1857.		Year of Re- cognition.	Remittances for Publications.	Donations.
MASSACHUSETTS.				
Boston, American Tract Society-----	N. P. Kemp, Treasurer-----	1	\$31,742 36	\$7,280 71
Foxboro'-----		32	5 00	
RHODE ISLAND.				
Old Warwick-----	Mrs. E. A. Willard, Secretary--	32	2 00	
CONNECTICUT.				
Ansonia, Female-----	Mary Terry, Treasurer-----	27	11 47	
Bridgeport-----	Geo. Sterling, Treasurer-----	27	80 24	
Centre Brook, Female-----	Mrs. A. F. Pratt, Treasurer-----	30	55	11 45
Cromwell, Female-----	Mary Savage, Treasurer-----	28	20 32	
Durham, Female-----	Miss C. C. Smith-----	29	1 98	
Hartford, Connecticut Branch-----	Charles Hoerner, Treasurer-----	2	1,200 00	
Jewett City-----	Mrs. N. T. Adams, Treasurer-----	2	2 24	
Lynde, Female-----	Miss Julia Ann Lord, Treasurer-----	17	2 00	20 00
New Haven-----	F. T. Jarman, Agent-----	2	17 50	
New London-----	Wm. H. Chapman, Treasurer-----	22	15 79	
Salisbury, Female-----	Miss M. R. Bostwick, Treasurer-----	1		22 00
South Farms, Female-----		11		12 00
South Mansfield, Female-----	Mrs. N. B. Arnold, Treasurer-----	5		48 00
Sterling and Voluntown, Female-----	Nancy Wylie, Treasurer-----	15		6 00
Stonington-----	Rev. W. Clift, Treasurer-----	4	2 48	
Stratford-----	D. P. Judson, Treasurer-----	1	14 08	
NEW YORK.				
Berea, Female-----	Rev. J. B. Ten Eycke, Treasurer-----	10	7 79	7 00
Brooklyn City Tract Society-----	Lewis Roberts, Treasurer-----	1	111 55	
Elmira, Female-----	Nathan Reynolds, Treasurer-----	4	8 00	
Fishkill, Female-----	Mrs. Van Wyck, Treasurer-----	2	14 85	
Fishkill Landing, Female-----	Mrs. Walter Brett, Treasurer-----	1	10 45	
Flatbush, Female-----	Mrs. A. L. Zabriskie, Treasurer-----	6	17 38	
Flatlands, Female-----	Miss Mary Baldwin, Treasurer-----	8	18 00	
Greenpoint-----	J. Crane, Treasurer-----		80	
Greenville-----	John H. Smith, Treasurer-----	29	4 90	
Little Falls-----	H. W. Morris, Secretary-----	29	10 00	
Lodi, Ref. Dutch Church, Female-----	Mrs. N. H. Morris, Treasurer-----	30	25 18	
Matteawan-----		12	2 00	
Montgomery, Ref. Dutch Church-----	Rev. R. P. Lee, Treasurer-----	9	13 67	
Newburgh-----	Rev. W. S. Heyer, President-----	1	46 00	
New Hackensack, Female-----		4	9 48	10 00
New Lots-----	Mrs. Snedeker, Secretary-----	17	4 77	
New Rochelle, Female-----	Miss Roosevelt, Treasurer-----	4	3 14	
Newtown, Female-----	Mrs. E. F. Goldsmith, Treasurer-----	9	60 00	60 00
New York city-----	Wm. Walker, Treasurer-----	2	1,600 03	
" " by Female Branch-----	Mrs. J. L. Mason, Treasurer-----	1	883 53	620 00
Oswego-----	Henry Adriance, Treasurer-----	30	10 00	
Rhinebeck, Female-----	Mrs. H. J. Kip, Secretary-----		19 14	
Salem-----	Rev. A. B. Lambert, D. D., Tr-----	9	16 67	
Saratoga, Female-----	Mary E. Jenkins, Secretary-----	28	53 00	
Schoharie, Female-----		10	14 32	
Stapleton-----	A. Mott, Treasurer-----	29	33 18	
St. Lawrence County-----	A. L. Proctor, Treasurer-----	12		99 15
Syracuse-----	R. G. Wynkoop, Secretary-----	4	144 21	
Tompkinsville-----	Rev. Mr. Brett, Treasurer-----	29	10 97	
Utica-----	W. J. Bacon, Treasurer-----	1	95 90	

NAMES OF BRANCHES, AUXILIARIES, TREASURERS, ETC., APRIL 1, 1857.		Year of Re- cognition.	Remittances for Publications.	Donations.
NEW YORK—Continued.				
Walton, Female	Mrs. E. Guild, Treasurer	2	6 00	-----
Warwasing, Female	A. G. Bevier, Secretary	25	29 19	-----
Washington County	J. Savage, Treasurer	12	-----	200 00
NEW JERSEY.				
Aquackanock	-----	10	8 15	-----
Boundbrook	Rev. R. K. Rodgers, Treas.	2	7 37	-----
Boundbrook, Ref. Dutch Ch., Female	-----	2	7 36	-----
Clinton	Mrs. A. Field, Treasurer	16	8 40	-----
Elizabethport	E. K. Smith, Treas.	18	22 76	-----
Elizabethtown	J. T. Gilchrist, Treas.	3	66 64	-----
Freehold, 1st Pres. Church, Female	Mrs. Sarah T. Roy, Treas.	9	5 94	-----
Hoboken	James Benson, Treasurer	22	38 31	-----
Jersey City Mission	L. F. Day, Treasurer	13	108 08	-----
Kingston, Female	Miss M. M. Baylis, Treas.	5	13 62	-----
Lawrenceville, Female	Mary L. Green, Treas.	2	8 00	-----
Long Branch	-----	27	10 00	-----
Madison, Female	Mrs. Geo. T. Sayre, Treas.	31	7 00	-----
Middlebush, Female	Miss Gertrude Nevius, Treas.	22	6 08	29 60
Montville	Mrs. A. A. Jacobus, Treasurer	32	8 00	-----
Morristown	W. H. Runyon, Treasurer	16	31 37	-----
Neshannock	Mrs. Van Nortwick, Treas.	28	8 62	-----
Newark	S. R. Heath, Treasurer	2	339 72	-----
New Brunswick	R. Marton, Treasurer	1	65 00	-----
Pompton	John V. Bean, Treas.	5	8 00	-----
Princeton, Female	A. L. Armstrong, Treasurer	3	10 00	118 50
Princeton Theological Seminary	J. McDougall, Secretary	7	35 33	-----
Raritan, 3d Ref. Du. Church	Sarah Provost, Treasurer	25	6 92	-----
Somerville, 1st Church, Female	Mrs. Jane Frelinghuysen, Sec'y.	2	-----	157 65
" 2d Church, Female	Mrs. Jane Taylor, Treas.	11	15 68	-----
South Orange	Ira Taylor, Treas.	9	1 92	-----
Westfield, Female	Mrs. K. Pierson, Treas.	5	10 36	-----
PENNSYLVANIA.				
Athens, Female	Mrs. Julia A. Perkins	5	2 25	-----
Bethlehem	Rev. Francis Wolla, Secretary	25	83 41	-----
Easton, Female	Isabella Allhouse, Treas.	26	6 00	-----
Erie	C. E. Gunnison, Treas.	28	24 50	-----
Nazareth, Female	Rev. Wm. L. Lennert, Pres't	20	20 00	-----
Scranton	S. Sherrard, Secretary	31	79 50	-----
Waynesburg, Female	Martha Buchanan, Treas.	27	3 00	-----
MARYLAND.				
Baltimore, Maryland Branch	W. B. Canfield, Treas.	2	2,180 14	-----
VIRGINIA.				
Charlottesville	Engene Davis, Treasurer	27	128 00	-----
Winchester	John N. Bell, Treasurer	2	72 36	-----
NORTH CAROLINA.				
Salem, Stokes County	S. Thos. Pfohl, Treas.	2	40 30	-----
SOUTH CAROLINA.				
Beaufort	J. J. Smith, Agent	9	3 50	-----
GEORGIA.				
Macon, Depository	J. C. C. Burnett, Depository	27	28 97	-----
TENNESSEE.				
Knoxville, East Tennessee Tract Soc.	-----	3	-----	42 00
OHIO.				
Hudson, Depository	-----	-----	30 00	-----
Warren, Trumbull County	W. N. Porter & Son, Agents	4	79 56	-----
Washington County	Silas Shocumb, Treas.	3	93 72	-----
ILLINOIS.				
Canton, Female	Mrs. M. J. Law, Secretary	33	9 35	-----

NAMES OF BRANCHES, AUXILIARIES, TREASURERS, ETC., APRIL 1, 1857.	Year of Re- cognition.	Remittances for Publications	Donations
MICHIGAN.			
Kalamazoo ----- D. A. McNair, Treas.	31	30 66	-----
Monroe ----- Mrs. C. J. Johnson, Treasurer	30	2 70	-----
WISCONSIN.			
Superior, Ladies Union -----	32	3 75	-----
CHOCTAW NATION.			
Union Tract Society ----- John P. Kingsbury, Treasurer	25	16 00	-----
CALIFORNIA.			
San Francisco ----- L. P. Benchly, Treas.	25	355 00	-----
WEST INDIES.			
St. Thomas ----- J. C. Barnett, Sec'y	25	7 59	-----

RECEIPTS

FROM TRACT AND OTHER BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY, FROM
APRIL 1, 1856, TO APRIL 1, 1857.

SOCIETIES NOT AUXILIARY.	For Publi- cations.	Donations.
RHODE ISLAND.—Providence, Sunday School Depository	\$225 34	-----
NEW YORK.—Coxsackie	8 23	-----
“ Moriches	21 60	-----
“ Whitehall, First Presbyterian Church	8 75	-----
NEW JERSEY.—Newton, First Presbyterian Church	2 75	-----
WISCONSIN.—Watertown, Congregational Church	15 00	-----
CANADA.—Montreal, Religious Tract Society	378 57	-----
“ Toronto, Upper Canada Tract Society	1,713 42	-----
SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh, Religious Tract and Book Society	483 18	-----
INDIA.—Agra, Tract Society	66 75	-----
“ Bombay, Tract Society	155 20	-----
NEW SOUTH WALES.—Sidney, Religious Tract and Book Society	487 77	-----
VAN DIEMANS-LAND.—Hobart Town, Religious Tract Society	122 50	-----

DIRECTORS FOR LIFE,

BY THE PAYMENT OF FIFTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS,
IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1857.

ALL NAMES MARKED * ARE DECEASED.

- Adams, Rev. Nehemiah, D. D., Boston, Mass.
Adams, D. L., Augusta, Ga.
Adams, William, Augusta, Ga.
Allen, George, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Anderson, J. W., Savannah, Ga.
Anderson, Isaac, New Haven, Conn.
Atkinson, Peyton A., Pitt Co., N. C.
Aughe, Rev. A. H., Williamsburgh, Pa.
Avery, O. F., Chicago, Ill.
Bacon, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Hartford, Conn.
Badger, Hon. Geo. E., Raleigh, N. C.
Beebe, Rev. S. J. M., Bluywick, Mo.
Bethune, Rev. Geo. W., D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Betts, Geo. F., New York city
Bird, Rev. Thompson, Fort Des Moines, Iowa.
Bliss, Rev. Seth, Boston, Mass.
Bohnson, Rev. G. F.
Booth, Maria Lathrop, Stamford, Conn.
Booth, Wm. T., New York city.
Booth, Edgar H., New York city.
Bowen, Mrs. Sylvia, Lockport, N. Y.
Boyd, Rev. Bankhead, Pigeon Creek, Pa.
Boylan, Wm., Raleigh, N. C.
Bradner, Mrs. Fanny, Dansville, N. Y.
Breck, Rev. R. L., Macon, Ga.
Bristol, Dr. Albert G., Rochester, N. Y.
Brown, Wm. K., Chicago, Ill.
Bruen, Alex. Jay, New York city.
Bryant, Andrew, Mt. Carmel, Ind.
Buchanan, Rev. Andrew, Boonsboro', Ark.
Buck, Miss Maria, New Lisbon, N. Y.
Burke, A. C., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Burroughs, J. M. D., Davenport, Iowa.
Burwell, G. H., Millwood, Va.
Bussing, Robert S., New York city.
Caruthers, Hon. R. L., Lebanon, Tenn.
Caruthers, Mrs. Sarah S., Lebanon, Tenn.
Chambers, Wm. C., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.
Chester, Mrs. A. T., Buffalo, N. Y.
Clarkson, Gen. M.
Colton, Rev. Willis S., Wethersfield, Conn.
Cornell, S. B. M., New York city.
Cowles, Rev. Sylvester, Olean, N. Y.
Cowles, Oliver Ellsworth, Olean, N. Y.
Crosby, Harriet Clarkson, New York city.
Crosby, Alice Clarkson, New York city.
Crosby, Henry Ashton, New York city.
Crosby, John Schuyler, West Troy, N. Y.
Cross, Jonathan, Richmond, Va.
Crowder, Wm. J. W., Fayetteville, N. C.
Crump, Wm. C., New London, Conn.
Cunningham, H. H., Augusta, Ga.
Cutler, W. P., Constitution P. O., Ohio.
Daniel, Rev. Samuel G., Savannah, Ga.
Darling, Thomas.
Dashiell, Rev. A. H., Stockbridge, Mass.
Davidson, John C., War Trace, Tenn.
Derry, Wm. C., Augusta, Ga.
De Schwanitz, Rev. Robert, Salem, N. C.
Dodge, A. G. Phelps, New York city.
Dunning, Rev. A., Thompson, Conn.
Edwards, Rev. Jonathan, Rochester, N. Y.
Ely, Wm. H., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ely, D. J., Chicago, Ill.
Ely, S. Styles, Chicago, Ill.
Ely, Richard, Chicago, Ill.
Ewing, Rev. Wm., Charters, Pa.
Farris, Rev. Robert, Peoria, Ill.
Farris, George G., Savannah, Ga.
Floyd, S., Wilmington, Del.
Ford, D. W., Keokuk, Iowa.
Fress, Jesse W., Barron Hill, Pa.
Fry, Rev. Jacob, Carlisle, Pa.
Froward, Hon. Wm. A., Pilatka, Fla.
Fulton, Joseph, Phelps, N. Y.
Fullerton, Alexander, Philadelphia, Pa.
Gibson, Rev. Churchill J., Petersburg, Va.
Gould, Edward S., New York city.
Grant, Rev. Stillman B., New Haven, Conn.
Graves, E. A., Orange, N. J.
Green, Charles, Savannah, Ga.
Grier, Rev. James, Noblestown, Pa.
Grosvenor, Seth, New York city.
Helfenstein, Mrs. Jacob, Germantown, Pa.
Helfrich, Rev. W. H., Fogelsville, Pa.
Henderson, Mrs. Alexander, Buffalo, N. Y.
Herbruck, Rev. J., Canton, Ohio.
Hildreth, Rev. S. P., Dresden, Ohio.
Hill, Mary, Somerset, N. Y.
Hill, Rev. R., Gettysburg, Pa.
Hill, Henry Clay, Yates, N. Y.
Hitchcock, D. G., New Orleans, La.
Hodgman, Thomas M., Perry Centre, N. Y.
Hoge, Rev. Peter C., Scottsville, Va.
Hopkins, Frances Mary, Cayuga, N. Y.
Howe, H. A., Orange, N. J.
Hoyt, Rev. James, Orange, N. J.
Hughes, Rev. D. S., Spruce Creek, Pa.
Jackson, Mrs. Eliza L., Helena, Ark.
Jenkins, Rev. John, Philadelphia, Pa.
Jenkins, Alonzo T., Newbern, N. C.
Johnston, James C., Edenton, N. C.
Jones, Martha, New York city.
Jones, John B., New York city.
Kiderlen, Mrs. Wm. Longworth, Philadelphia, Pa.
King, Rev. Robert M., Boonsboro', Ark.
Leacock, Rev. B. B., Mobile, Ala.
Ledoux, L. P., Monroe, Mich.
Lewis, Geo. W., Augusta, Ga.
Linn, Rev. James, Bellefontaine, Pa.
Livingston, Rev. E. P., Griggstown, N. J.
Lookwood, Radcliffe B., Binghamton, N. Y.
Marshall, Archibald M., Pittsburg, Pa.
Martin, Chas. J., New York city.
M'Elroy, Mrs. Jane B., Lebanon, Ky.
M'Guffy, A. H., Cincinnati, Ohio.
M'Henry, John G., Augusta, Ga.
M'Knight, A., Milton, Tenn.
M'Lean, Rev. James, Mobile, Ala.
Merriam, B. W., New York city.
Mordecai, Geo. W., Raleigh, N. C.
Mosely, F., Chicago, Ill.
Muller, Theo. De Horn, Senulds Ferry, Williamsburg District, S. C.
Muller, Mary A. C., Senulds Ferry, Williamsburg District, S. C.
Muma, D., New York city.
Myers, Rev. Joseph H., St. Augustine, Fla.
Nash, Rev. J. A., Fort Des Moines, Iowa.
Norwood, N. J., Clinton, La.
Norwood, P. J., Clinton, La.
Oliver, Wm. H., New York city.
Oroutt, Rev. John, Hartford, Conn.
Osmond, Rev. Samuel M., Amwell, N. J.

Perkins, Samuel H., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Peterkin, Rev. Joshua, Richmond, Va.
 Pfohl, Rev. Samuel Thomas, Salem, N. C.
 Phelps, Geo. D., Jr., New York city.
 Phelps, J. J., New York city.
 Pierce, Franklin, President U. S., Washington, D. C.
 Porter, Rev. David H., Savannah, Ga.
 Potter, John, Cannonsburgh, Pa.
 Provost, Jonathan, Caldwell, N. J.
 Randolph, F. W., New York city.
 Reinheart, Rev. Edwin H., Elizabethport, N. J.
 Rich, Mrs. G. B., Buffalo, N. Y.
 Richards, Rev. Elias J., Reading, Pa.
 Richards, Guy, New York city.
 Ross, John, Park Hill, Cherokee Nation.
 Rutherford, Mrs. M. S., New York city.
 Savage, James, Argyle, N. Y.
 Sawyer, Rev. Samuel, Rogersville, Tenn.
 Soullier, Rev. J. B., Argyle, N. Y.
 Seelye, Mrs. Elizabeth J., Schenectady, N. Y.
 Seelye, Miss Elizabeth B., Schenectady, N. Y.
 Shaw, Rev. J. B., D. D., Rochester, N. Y.
 Shedd, Prof. Wm. G. T., Andover, Mass.
 Sherman, W. B., New York city.
 Sherwood, Rev. J. L., Washington, N. C.
 Shute, Rev. Samuel M., Alexandria, Va.
 Siemons, John D., Salem, N. C.
 Small, Samuel, York, Pa.
 Small, Hugh, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Smallwood, J. L., New York city.
 Smith, R. A., Macon, Ga.
 Smith, Randolph Payson, New Orleans, La.
 Smith, Curtis Dwight, New Orleans, La.
 Smith, Mrs. Randolph A., New Orleans, La.
 Squire, Charles, New York city.
 Squire, Charles, Jr., New York city.

Staunton, J. B., Wesley, Tenn.
 Stearns, Rev. John, Stratford, Conn.
 Stephens, H. G., New York city.
 Stevens, Rev. Wm. Bacon, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Stevenson, Miss Frances N., Coila, N. Y.
 Stevenson, Rev. J. M., New Albany, Ind.
 Stewart, Mrs. Wm., Clarksville, Tenn.
 Stewart, Mr., Clarksville, Tenn.
 Stewart, Miss, Clarksville, Tenn.
 Stockbridge, Rev. Jos., U. S. N., Plainfield, N. J.
 Stuart, Geo. H., Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Stuyvesant, Gerard, New York city.
 Suydam, James Adrian, Astoria, N. Y.
 Townsend, Miss Juliet E., Elbridge, N. Y.
 Townsend, Palmer, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Trumbull, D., Bayou Sara, La.
 Tucker, Rev. Joel W., Newbern, N. C.
 Turpin, Dr. Wm. H., Augusta, Ga.
 Tyne, Rev. Cornelius, Powhatan co., Va.
 Volk, Henry, New York city.
 Wales, S. W., New York city.
 Wall, Rev. Thos. George, Newbern, N. C.
 Walthall, Rev. J. L., Newbern, N. C.
 Wardwell, J. M., New York city.
 Watkinson, David, Hartford, Conn.
 West, Joseph I., New York city.
 West, James O., New York city.
 Wilcox, Daniel H., Augusta, Ga.
 Wilcox, J. S., Augusta, Ga.
 Wilkinson, M. W., Augusta, Ga.
 Williams, George H., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Willis, Rev. Edward J., Richmond, Va.
 Winfree, Rev. David B., Chesterfield co., Va.
 Wood, Rev. F. S., Van Buren, Ark.
 Woodbridge, Mrs. Wm. E., Perth Amboy, N. J.
 Worcester, Rev. S. A., Park Hill, Cherokee Nation.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY THE CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS,
 IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1857.

Ackerly, Elisha, Patchogue, N. Y.
 Ackley, Elizabeth Marvin, Morristown, N. J.
 Adair, Mrs. Sarah A., Park Hill, Cherokee Nation.
 Adam, Miss Maria Louise, New York city.
 Adams, Samuel, M. D., Salona, Pa.
 Adams, Geo. E., Mohrsville, Pa.
 Adlam, Miss Martha P., Newport, R. I.
 Adrians, Edward, Sand Beach, N. Y.
 Alden, Anna G., New Haven, Conn.
 Alleman, Mrs. Elizabeth, Hanover, Pa.
 Allen, J. M., Hartford, Conn.
 Allen, Marinus N., Homer, N. Y.
 Allen, Mrs. M. M., Pottsville, Pa.
 Alling, Thomas, New Haven, Conn.
 Almy, Miss Margaretta Gammel, Newport, R. I.
 Altenderfer, Benjamin F., Mohrsville, Pa.
 Alter, Isaac H., Fremont, Pa.
 Alvord, Mrs. S. A., St. Louis, Mo.
 Ambler, Edward Finch, New York city.
 Ameling, Mrs. Caroline I., Louisville, Ky.
 Ames, Eli, Albemarle co., Va.
 Anderson, Sarah, New York city.
 Anderson, Robert, Plainfield, N. J.
 Anderson, Mrs. Elizabeth, New Haven, Conn.
 Andrew, Mrs. Henry, New York city.
 Andrew, Miss Ellen P., New York city.
 Andrew, Miss Mary P., New York city.
 Andrew, Miss Martha H., New York city.
 Andrews, Mrs. Julia Russell, New York city.
 Andrews, Rev. George B., Housenville, N. Y.
 Andrews, Edward, Union Village, N. Y.
 Andrews, Mrs. S. H., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Anasley, D. H., Augusta, Ga.

Anasley, J. A., Augusta, Ga.
 Anasley, Clinton, Bellona, N. Y.
 Appleton, John Howard, Providence, R. I.
 Armstrong, Rev. Joseph R., West Ely, Mo.
 Arnold, Mrs. Mary O., Norwich, Conn.
 Arnold, Maria, Ogden, N. Y.
 Arrington, Dr. B. F., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Ashley, Mrs. W. W., Little Rock, Ark.
 Ashley, Mrs. F. E., Little Rock, Ark.
 Atwater, Rev. Jason, Southbury, Conn.
 Avery, Mary A., Chicago, Ill.
 Bacon, Rev. L. W., Litchfield, Conn.
 Bailey, Evangelia, Newark, N. Y.
 Baker, Mrs. Elias, Altona, Pa.
 Baker, Asher Carter, Chicago, Ill.
 Baldwin, Ithimar, North Cornwall, Conn.
 Baldwin, Caleb J., Orange, N. J.
 Baldwin, Rev. John C., Fou Chou, China.
 Baldwin, Rev. E., Mobile, Ala.
 Baldwin, Miss Julia Adelaide, Waterville, Ohio.
 Ball, Mrs. Ann, Flint Hill, Mo.
 Banta, Chas. E., Phelps, N. Y.
 Barber, Rev. Amzi D., Bellevue, Ohio.
 Barbour, Lucius, Hartford, Conn.
 Barnard, Joseph C., Savannah, Ga.
 Barnes, Dea. Byard, North Haven, Conn.
 Barnett, Frank W., Washington, Ga.
 Barrow, Mrs. Huldah, Brunswick, Me.
 Bartholomew, Edward J., Augusta, N. Y.
 Bartlett, Mary, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Bartlett, Rev. P. M., Circleville, Ohio.
 Bassler, Miss Mary, Farmersville, N. Y.
 Bassett, Mrs. Frances, Providence, R. I.

- Bassett, Rebecca, Hebron, Conn.
 Bates, Aaron T., Mansfield, Ohio.
 Baton, Augustus J., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Baugher, Rev. Henry L., Gettysburg, Pa.
 Baxter, Richard B., Athens, Ga.
 Beach, Miss Eliza J., Troy, N. J.
 Beadle, Henry W., Elmira, N. Y.
 Beadle, Mary S., Elmira, N. Y.
 Bean, Miss Eliza P., Boonsboro', Ark.
 Bean, J. S., Augusta, Ga.
 Bechtel, A., Wooster, Ohio.
 Beecher, Catharine, Woodbridge, Conn.
 Beeker, Walter Y., Mohrsville, Pa.
 Beers, Miss Charlotte, Newtown, Conn.
 Beers, David B., Newtown, Conn.
 Belcher, Nathan, New London, Conn.
 Bell, Mrs. Clarinda G., Greenup Furnace, Ky.
 Beman, Mrs. A. D., Mount Zion, Ga.
 Bender, Franklin, Wind Gap, Pa.
 Benedict, Miss Cornelia E., Providence, R. I.
 Benedict, Edgar, Brockport, N. Y.
 Benham, Charles H., Middletown, Conn.
 Bennet, Miss Ann, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Bergstresser, Rev. Peter, Nippenose, Pa.
 Betts, Mrs. Clarissa, Wilton, Conn.
 Bingham, Miss M. W., Paris, Tenn.
 Bird, James T., Wilmington, Del.
 Birdseye, Lucia C., Middletown, Conn.
 Bishop, Mrs. M. M., Athens, Ga.
 Bissell, Clarissa, East Hartford, Conn.
 Bittle, Rev. D. F., Roanoke College, Va.
 Blackwell, Josiah, Jr., Astoria, N. Y.
 Blair, Sarah, Chicago, Ill.
 Blake, Mrs. Hannah L., Cumberland Centre, Me.
 Blasland, Miss Eleanor H., Mountain, Tenn.
 Blickensderfer, Isaac, Gnsdenhutzen, Ohio.
 Blush, Wm. D., Pittsfield, Mass.
 Blydenburgh, John B., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Bogden, Cornelia, Chicago, Ill.
 Boies, Joseph M., Saugerties, N. Y.
 Bolling, A., Richmond, Va.
 Bond, Mrs. Henrietta S., Macon, Ga.
 Bondurant, Dr. James C., Old Hamburg, Ky.
 Booth, Mrs. Minerva, Candor, N. Y.
 Booth, Rev. H. A., Bonhomme, Mo.
 Borden, Edward B., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Beardman, Mary Alida, Rome, N. Y.
 Born, Rev. Peter, Sunbury, Pa.
 Bosford, Rev. Alfred P., Housenville, N. Y.
 Bosson, William, Claysville, Tenn.
 Bousquet, A. E., Dudook, Pella, Iowa.
 Bower, Rev. Edward R., Wappinger's Falls, N. Y.
 Bowers, Miss Martha S., Cooperstown, N. Y.
 Bowman, Samuel B., Preston, Canada.
 Boyden, Miss Maria E., Chicago, Ill.
 Boylan, Wm. M., Raleigh, N. C.
 Bradbury, Rev. Charles J., Jasper, N. Y.
 Bradford, Miss Ann Eliza, Tallahassee, Fla.
 Bradley, Frank De Witt, Orange, Conn.
 Bradley, George P., Stockbridge, Mass.
 Bradley, Byron C., Evanston, Ill.
 Bradley, Wm. Henry, Southport, Conn.
 Bradshaw, Rev. Amzi, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
 Braley, Philemon, Carlisle, Ill.
 Brewster, Mrs. Phebe, Cummington, Mass.
 Brickley, Andrew H., Lockport, N. Y.
 Brigham, Miss Mary A., Hartford, Conn.
 Brigham, Mrs. Sophia M., Ogden, N. Y.
 Brink, Benj. Myer, Caatsban, N. Y.
 Broadus, Thomas, Caroline co., Va.
 Bronson, Miss Lucy S., Wolcott, Conn.
 Bronson, Mrs. Annie L., Kinderhook, N. Y.
 Brooks, Cornelius, Hanover Neck, N. J.
 Brotzman, Joseph L., Easton, Pa.
 Brown, Miss Marianna C., New York city.
 Brown, Rev. R. A., New Castle, Pa.
 Brown, Francis, Pittsfield, Ill.
 Brown, Rev. J. Holland, Paynesville, Ohio.
 Brown, Mary E., Dansville, N. Y.
 Brown, Mrs. Eunice B., Gilbertsville, N. Y.
 Brown, John, Berkshire, N. Y.
 Brown, Robert F., Charlestown, Va.
 Bryan, J. H., Raleigh, N. C.
 Buckner, Rev. X. X., Columbia, Mo.
 Buell, George Burton, Hartford, Conn.
 Buell, Charles Long, Middlefield, Ohio.
 Bulkley, Georgie Augusta, New York city.
 Burdett, Wm. Seymour, New York city.
 Burg, Stephen, Canal Fulton, Ohio.
 Burney, Rev. S. G. D. D., Oxford, Miss.
 Burnham, Rev. F. J., Wolcott, N. Y.
 Burnham, Miss Cornelia W., Madison, N. Y.
 Burr, Miss Lydia, Providence, R. I.
 Burrett, Miss Frances, Chagrin Falls, Ohio.
 Burt, Charles, Gilbertsville, N. Y.
 Burtis, James K., Chicago, Ill.
 Bushnell, Henry L., Madison, Conn.
 Bushnell, Wm. C., Madison, Conn.
 Butler, Mrs. Emily J., New Haven, Conn.
 Butler, Glentworth Reese, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Button, Dea. Joel, Griswold, Conn.
 Cady, Elisha, Huron, N. Y.
 Cady, Mrs. Elisha, Huron, N. Y.
 Cady, I. Foote, Warren, R. I.
 Caldwell, Mrs. Rebecca D., Greensboro, N. C.
 Caldwell, J. C., Shelbyville, Ind.
 Caldwell, Dr. W. W., —, Ohio.
 Calhoun, John, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Calvert, Mrs. Margaret Y., Bowling Green, Ky.
 Camp, Miss Lucy Ann, Dryden, N. Y.
 Campbell, Rev. James, Paris, Pa.
 Campbell, Rev. James, Bowling Green, Mo.
 Carr, Thomas T., Newport, R. I.
 Carson, Rev. John C., Apple Creek, Ohio.
 Carson, Rev. E. A., Savannah, Mo.
 Carver, Samuel, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Cathcart, J. E., New Stanton, Pa.
 Chamberlain, Ward B., Smithfield, N. Y.
 Chamberlain, O. S., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Chamberlain, Mrs. Jane A. K., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Chamberlain, Miss Harriet, Ansterlitz, N. Y.
 Chamberlain, Sarah, Homer, N. Y.
 Chambers, Miss Elizabeth K., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Chandler, Ira, Potsdam, N. Y.
 Chandler, Mrs. Abbie, Ellsworth, Ohio.
 Chapin, Miss Louisa, Waverly, Ill.
 Chapin, Miss Betsey, Canandaigua, N. Y.
 Chapin, Rev. O. N., Sparta, N. Y.
 Chaplin, Rev. O. C., Danville, Va.
 Chapman, Miss Frances A., Van Buren, Ark.
 Cheraud, Miss Eglantine, Hartford, Conn.
 Childs, Miss Catharine K., Castleton, Vt.
 Childs, Solomon, Henniker, N. H.
 Chisholm, Robert, Beaufort, S. C.
 Clark, James E., Livonia Centre, N. Y.
 Clark, Wm. Platt, Homer, N. Y.
 Clark, Rev. Clinton, Ridgefield, Conn.
 Clark, Albert, New York city.
 Clark, Miss Sarah, Fort Smith, Ark.
 Clemens, Amos, Waterloo co., Canada.
 Clement, S. M., Fredonia, N. Y.
 Cobb, Miss Henrietta W., Tarrytown, N. Y.
 Cobb, Sally A., Athens, Ga.
 Coe, Laura Elizabeth, Whitesville, Mass.
 Coffin, Thomas, Richmond, Ind.
 Cogswell, John K., Maumee City, Ohio.
 Coit, Mary D., Jewett City, Conn.
 Coit, Mrs. Mary E., Hartford, Conn.
 Colby, Mrs. Almira, Defiance, Ohio.
 Cole, Henry, Lafayette, N. Y.
 Coleman, Rev. James D., Caroline co., Va.
 Collie, Mrs. Rev. J., Delavan, Wis.
 Collins, Mrs. R. H., Winsted, Conn.
 Collins, Rev. P. E., Mobile, Ala.
 Colton, Charlotte, West Hartford, Conn.
 Condit, Miss Sarah J., Auburn, N. Y.
 Cone, Rev. Luther H., Chicopee, Mass.
 Conrad, Joseph B., Berneville, Pa.

- Cook, Emeline, Martinsburg, Ohio.
 Cooke, Erastus F., Wetherfield, Conn.
 Cooley, Mrs. Sarah A., Chicago, Ill.
 Cooley, Wm. Henry, Pittston, Pa.
 Corbet, Otis G., Orange, N. J.
 Cornell, Seth P., Hoosick Falls, N. Y.
 Cotes, Mrs. Davis, Springfield, N. Y.
 Coulter, Rev. Daniel, Millersburg, Mo.
 Covell, Miss Susan, Providence, R. I.
 Coviller, Robert, Elmira, N. Y.
 Covert, Mrs. Jane D., Farmersville, N. Y.
 Covert, Mrs. Isaac, New York city.
 Cowan, Mrs. Samuel, Shelbyville, Tenn.
 Cox, Joseph B., Taylorsville, Ky.
 Craig, Rebecca F., Thorntown, Ind.
 Crane, Zenas C., Caldwell, N. J.
 Crane, Miss Emily, Phelps, N. Y.
 Crane, Rev. Oliver, Huron, N. Y.
 Crane, Mrs. Marvin D., Huron, N. Y.
 Crane, Rev. Edward P., Rockland Lake, N. Y.
 Crawford, Miss Harriet, Lebanon, Ky.
 Crittenden, Mrs. Catharine L., Frankfort, Ky.
 Crosby, Alice C., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Crosby, Mrs. Jane, Hartford, Conn.
 Crosby, Miss Jennie, Hartford, Conn.
 Cross, Sarah M., Richmond, Va.
 Crowder, Fertes E. M., Raleigh, N. C.
 Cudderback, Mrs. Mary, Northville, N. Y.
 Cummins, Mrs. Susan, St. Charles, Mo.
 Cunningham, Wm. M., Canal Dover, Ohio
 Curtis, George W., Hartford, Conn.
 Curtis, Miss S. Henrietta, Covington, Tenn.
 Curtis, Wm. Cranston, Newark, Del.
 Daggett, Julia Driver, Pontotox, Miss.
 Daggett, Sally Hobson, Pontotox, Miss.
 Daggett, Susan E., Canandaigua, N. Y.
 Danilson, Dea. Adam, West Killingly, Conn.
 Davenport, Henry Benedict, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Davenport, Henry, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Davis, Mrs. Mary, Pigeon Creek, Pa.
 Davis, Mrs. Clarissa, Coram, N. Y.
 Davis, Mary E., New Orleans, La.
 Day, Mrs. Harriet, Hartford, Conn.
 Deardorff, Mrs. Anna Bella, Canal Dover, Ohio.
 Deems, Rev. C. F., D. D., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Delong, Rev. Ira, Keokuk, Iowa.
 Demarest, David C., New York city.
 Demarest, Magdalena C., New York city.
 Deming, Mrs. Lucia, Rootstown, Ohio.
 Denise, Denise, Burlington City, Iowa.
 Dennis, John D., Newport, R. I.
 Denniston, Mrs. Jane, Thompsonville, Pa.
 Derron, Mrs. Elizabeth, Patterson, N. J.
 Devereaux, Thomas P., Halifax co., N. C.
 Dickinson, Henry C., Jersey City, N. J.
 Dimond, Mrs. Mary Augusta, Rock Hill, Mo.
 Dirneck, Rev. Samuel R., Valatie, N. Y.
 Dobbin, T. G., Carrollton, Mo.
 Dobbin, Mrs. Mary P., Helena, Ark.
 Dodge, Miss Roda A., Clayville, Tenn.
 Doll, Rev. John A., Scottsville, Va.
 Donnell, Robert, Platte co., Mo.
 Dorochester, Miss Cornelia A., Utica, N. Y.
 Doremus, Mrs. Henry, Montville, N. J.
 Dow, Miss Lucia Maria, Van Buren, N. Y.
 Dowd, Miss Ella, New Haven, N. Y.
 Downing, Mrs. Susannah, Newark, Mo.
 Downs, Wm. H., Seneca Falls, N. Y.
 Downs, Daniel A., Upper Aquebogue, N. Y.
 Draper, Mrs. Mary K., Ashley, Mo.
 Drennan, John P., Mansfield, Ohio.
 Drexel, Antony J., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Dresback, Samuel, Circleville, Ohio.
 Dubose, Samuel, Clinton, La.
 Dudley, Mrs. Samuel, Madison, Conn.
 Dulles, Joseph M., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Dunham, Rev. Thos. S., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Dunham, J. H., Chicago, Ill.
 Dunham, Miss E. H., Chicago, Ill.
 Dunham, Miss Severance, Chicago, Ill.
 Dunlap, Robert, Petersburg, Va.
 Durham, Peter C., New Haven, Conn.
 Dusenbury, Mrs. Sarah F. W., Newburgh, N. Y.
 Duy, Rev. J. C., New Germantown, N. J.
 Eastin, Rev. Stephen, Goodland co., Va.
 Eastman, Miss Emma Josephine, Leverett, Mass.
 Eaton, D. G., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Eckel, Henry, Fremont, Pa.
 Edwards, Wm. B., Dubuque, Iowa.
 Edwards, Walter, Astoria, N. Y.
 Edwards, Wm. R., Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Eells, George E., Columbus, Ohio.
 Efner, Sara M., Elmira, N. Y.
 Egleston, Thomas, New York city.
 Elliot, Miss Mary, East Greenbush, N. Y.
 Elliot, Rev. S., Beaufort, S. C.
 Elliott, Rev. George, Alexandria, Pa.
 Ellis, Walter N., M. D., Sippican, Mass.
 Ellyson, H. K., Richmond, Va.
 Emendorff, Mrs. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Elwood, Rev. D. M., Southboro', Conn.
 Ely, Samuel Mills, Binghamton, N. Y.
 Ely, Miss Mary Ann C., Dryden, N. Y.
 Ely, Mrs. Deborah W., Oley, Pa.
 Ely, Mary Eliza, Chicago, Ill.
 Emmerson, Rev. J. W., Bradfordville, Ky.
 Esty, Joseph, Ithaca, N. Y.
 Evans, Rev. R. R., Germantown, Tenn.
 Everett, John, Everettsville, N. C.
 Everhard, Miss Hannah, Hamburg, Pa.
 Fairchild, Thomas, Stratford, Conn.
 Fairchild, Mrs. Sophia C., Cazenovia, N. Y.
 Fairchild, Rev. Thomas B., Cleveland, Ohio.
 Fanning, Miss Salome, Moriches, N. Y.
 Farns, Jacob, St. Clair, Pa.
 Farrar, Charles S., Elmira, N. Y.
 Farwell, Abbie, Chicago, Ill.
 Farwell, Mary N., Chicago, Ill.
 Faxon, Mrs. Sarah G., Payson, Ill.
 Fay, Joseph, Williamsburg, Pa.
 Ferris, Mrs. Hannah, Genoa, N. Y.
 Findley, Rev. Wm. T., Springfield, Ohio.
 Fisher, John J., St. Louis, Mo.
 Fitch, Mrs. Sarah J., New York city.
 Fitch, Horatio, Hartford, Conn.
 Fitzgerald, Rev. Mr., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Fleck, Henry, Sinking Valley, Pa.
 Fleming, Margaret, Sand Beach, N. Y.
 Foote, Mrs. Caroline Augusta, New Haven, Conn.
 Ford, Marcus, Hackettstown, N. J.
 Forgee, Miss Mary, Utica, N. Y.
 Forman, Rev. A. P., Hannibal, Mo.
 Foster, Miss Lucretia, Fayetteville, Ark.
 Foster, Harriet E., Oxford, Mass.
 Foster, Maria Jane, Oxford, Mass.
 Foster, Josiah, Southampton, N. Y.
 Fouse, Rev. Theobault, Morrison's Cove, Pa.
 Frank, Henry, Chippewa, Ohio.
 Frazier, Rev. Mr., Little Rock, Ark.
 Freeman, James Cook, Aurora, Ind.
 Freer, Mrs. S. M., Cortlandtown, N. Y.
 Frick, John L., Quakertown, Pa.
 Frierson, Rev. J. Simpson, Spring Hill, Tenn.
 Frierson, Rev. John Stevenson, Spring Hill, Tenn.
 Frupp, William, Beaufort, S. C.
 Frupp, E., Beaufort, S. C.
 Fulton, Mrs. Fanny C., Burgettstown, Pa.
 Furman, Miss Laura G., Warren, Ohio.
 Galbraith, Mrs. Wm., Shelbyville, Tenn.
 Gallaher, Rev. Frederick R., St. Charles, Mo.
 Gantenbein, Rev. John, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Gardner, Mrs. Addison, Rochester, N. Y.
 Gardner, Rev. G. F., Manayunk, Pa.
 Garland, Miss Amanda M., Louisa co., Va.
 Garver, Martin Luther, Scotland, Pa.
 Gaylord, E. Wm., Port Penn, Del.
 Gehman, Miss Rebecca, Hoesensack, Pa.
 Gehring, Rev. Jacob, Berneville, Pa.

- Gennett, Miss Mary Alice, Richmond, Va.
 Gibbs, Miss Sarah L., Norwalk, Ohio.
 Gibson, Mrs. Martha M., Tiffin, Ohio.
 Gilbert, Judson, Durham, N. Y.
 Gilbert, Mary J., Dryden, N. Y.
 Gilbert, Mrs. Elizabeth H., Monroe, Mich.
 Gilbert, Rev. S. B., Lime, Ohio.
 Gillett, Levi P., Youngstown, N. Y.
 Gilliland, James, Ripley, Ohio.
 Glase, Miss Emma E., Oley, Pa.
 Godfrey, W., Walterborough, S. C.
 Goodfellow, John, St. Louis, Mo.
 Goodman, Mrs. Hannah J., Canton, Ohio.
 Goodrich, Rev. Wm., Bloomsburg, Ohio.
 Goodrich, Miss Julia W., Binghamton, N. Y.
 Goodwin, Mrs. Chas. S., Hartford, Conn.
 Goodwin, Charles H., Rockville, Conn.
 Goodwin, Horace H., Rockville, Conn.
 Goodwin, Simson, Felicity, Ohio.
 Gordon, Sarah Hamilton, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Gorham, George A., New Haven, Conn.
 Gould, Seabury Smith, Jr., Seneca Falls, N. Y.
 Grammer, Rev. Mr., Smithfield, Va.
 Granby, Samuel, Rebersburg, Pa.
 Grant, Mrs. Mary T., New Haven, Conn.
 Grant, Edwin S., Pella, Iowa.
 Grant, Mrs. Eliza North, Chapel Hill, N. C.
 Graves, B., Clinton, La.
 Graves, Azariah, Augusta, Ga.
 Green, Dorastus, Coventry, N. Y.
 Green, Mary, Lebanon, Tenn.
 Green, Miss E. J., Leeds, N. Y.
 Gregory, Miss Clarissa, Hilton, Conn.
 Gregory, Mrs. C. E., Prattville, N. Y.
 Griffin, Harmon, New York city.
 Griffing, Miss Isabella, Shelter Island, N. Y.
 Griffith, Rev. T. S., Dubuque, Iowa.
 Grimes, Nancy, Pitt co., N. C.
 Griswold, Charles, Watertown, Conn.
 Griswold, A. B., New Orleans, La.
 Gulliver, Arthur H., Norwich, Conn.
 Gumbes, Wm. Henry, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Gurnn, Miss Mary J., Chicago, Ill.
 Gustin, Miss Jane M., New York city.
 Gwathmey, Robert T., King and Queen co., Va.
 Habersham, Rev. B. E., Marietta, Ga.
 Haines, Huldah E., Newark, N. J.
 Hale, Miss Cornelia, Elbridge, N. Y.
 Halliday, Prof. L. D., Hampden, Va.
 Halsey, Miss Elizabeth S., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Halsted, Wm. Stuart, New York city.
 Hammet, Rev. B. W., Fort Smith, Ark.
 Hammond, John C., Crown Point, N. Y.
 Hansell, Thomas Martin, Jewett, N. Y.
 Hanson, James, West Ely, Mo.
 Hanson, Dr. D. D., Hartford, Conn.
 Hardcastle, Dr. E. M., La Trappe, Md.
 Hardenburgh, Matthew, Savannah, Ga.
 Harder, Mrs. Sarah, Nassau, N. Y.
 Hardy, Mrs. S. S., Stony Creek, Mich.
 Hardy, Rev. Seth, Stony Creek, Mich.
 Hargrave, Rev. John T., Middlebury, Va.
 Harrington, Rev. Alfred L., Peru, Ill.
 Harris, Rev. George, St. Clair, Pa.
 Harris, Mrs. Samuel, Ithaca, N. Y.
 Harris, M. G., Sparta, Ga.
 Harris, Y. G. L., Athens, Ga.
 Harris, Wm. D., New York city.
 Hart, Miss Phebe P., Warren, Ohio.
 Hart, Miss Amanda, Romulus, N. Y.
 Hart, John W., Albion, N. Y.
 Hart, J. K., Albion, N. Y.
 Hart, Mrs. Baldwin, Madison, Conn.
 Hartman, Cornelia S., Lyons, N. Y.
 Harvey, Rev. Wm. Nye, Bethel, Conn.
 Hartzel, Peter, Easton, Pa.
 Hasbrouck, Miss Maria La Blau, Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 Hasbrouck, Josiah, Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 Hassler, Rev. J. W., Blue Bell, Pa.
 Havens, Mrs. Adeline O., Hartford, Conn.
 Hawks, Rev. John, Kirtland, Ohio.
 Hawley, Charles E., Morristown, N. J.
 Hayes, Mrs. Sarah L., Oregon City, Oregon.
 Heath, Lurad C., New York city.
 Heaton, Miss Eliza, Thetford, Vt.
 Hedges, Mrs. Mary, Pine Plains, N. Y.
 Hedges, Henry P., Bridgehampton, N. Y.
 Hedin, Martha Edward, Raleigh, N. C.
 Heilman, Hannah Regina, Clinton Mills, Pa.
 Helsel, Rev. Jesse, Monroe, Ohio.
 Hemmingway, Jane Eliz., Woodbridge, Conn.
 Hendricks, —, Clarksville, Tenn.
 Henry, Frederick P., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Hervey, Margaret Jane, Martinsburgh, Ohio.
 Hewlett, James E., St. Joseph, Mo.
 Hidden, Thomas B., New York city.
 Higby, E. J., Prattsburgh, N. Y.
 Higgins, Rev. C. W., Spencer, N. Y.
 High, John, Chicago, Ill.
 Hill, Richard T., New Orleans, La.
 Hill, James, Steubenville, Ohio.
 Hill, Mrs. John M., Nashville, Tenn.
 Hills, Miss Elizabeth, Waterloo, N. Y.
 Hills, Miss H. P., Chicago, Ill.
 Hine, Simmons, New Haven, Conn.
 Hitchcock, Julia, Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Hobart, Ellen F., Homer, N. Y.
 Hoge, Peter Byron, Staunton, Va.
 Holcombe, T., Savannah, Ga.
 Holden, Miss Eliza Storrs, New York city.
 Holden, Miss Catharine J., New York city.
 Holt, Henry O., West Willington, Conn.
 Holt, S. P., Big Lick, Va.
 Holt, Ellen M., Chicago, Ill.
 Holzman, David, Perryburg, Pa.
 Hopkins, Mrs. Eliza J., Salem, N. Y.
 Horlacker, Jacob, New Berlin, Pa.
 Horning, J. H. Nelson Wells, North Zion, Pa.
 Hosford, Noah, Mexico, N. Y.
 Hosford, John Andrews, Jewett, N. Y.
 Houghton, Miss Marilla, Le Roy, N. Y.
 Houtp, Mrs. Celitia, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Howard, Miss Ann M., West Charlestown, Vt.
 Howard, Rev. John, Woodstock, Va.
 Howell, Mrs. Eliza S., Dobb's Ferry, N. Y.
 Howland, Mrs. Mary, Albion, N. Y.
 Howse, Miss Mary J., New Haven, N. Y.
 Hoyl, Andrew, Hoylesville, N. C.
 Hoyt, Alice Louisa, Coventry, N. Y.
 Hoyt, Mrs. E. B., Nashville, Tenn.
 Hubbard, Elizabeth, Middletown, Conn.
 Hubbell, Blandina Phraner, Sing Sing, N. Y.
 Hudson, Miss Mary R., Hartford, Conn.
 Hudson, Thomas B., Auburn, N. Y.
 Hulburd, Hon. C. T., Brazer Falls, N. Y.
 Humphrey, Elizabeth T., Elmira, N. Y.
 Hungerford, Mrs. Anson, Watertown, N. Y.
 Hunn, Julia O., Dryden, N. Y.
 Hunt, Seth B., New York city.
 Hunt, John, Hadley, Mass.
 Huntington, Miss Martha A., Owego, N. Y.
 Huntington, Miss Nancy M., Norwich, Conn.
 Huntington, Mrs. Edward, Norwich, Conn.
 Hurd, Wm. Stowe, Jr., Enfield, Mass.
 Hurd, Sarah S., Enfield, Mass.
 Hurd, Nelson S., Enfield, Mass.
 Hustace, William, New York city.
 Hyatt, Theodore, Wilmington, Del.
 Hyde, Mrs. Abby B., Bolton, Conn.
 Hyde, Carrie Macy, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Hyde, Mrs. Lewis A., Norwich, Conn.
 Hyde, Rev. James T., Hartford, Conn.
 Hyde, Anna Seymour, New York city.
 Imhoff, Rev. Alexander J., Lindley, Ohio.
 Irwin, James, Vermont, Ill.
 Isenbury, Samuel, Alexandria, Pa.
 Isenbury, John, Yellow Springs, Pa.

- Isett, James, Williamsburgh, Pa.
 Jack, J. Corwin, Pine Hill, N. Y.
 Jackson, Mrs. Maria T., Newport, R. I.
 Jamieson, Rev. A. A., Cleves, Ohio.
 James, Rev. Silas C., Fee Fee, Mo.
 James, Chas. F., Walton, N. H.
 Janeway, Miss Elizabeth W., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Jewell, Mrs. M. E., Salisbury, Conn.
 Jewett, Louisa Brown, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Johns, Mrs. Lydia, Prattsville, N. Y.
 Johnson, Clara Isabella, Granville, Ohio.
 Johnson, Whitfield S., Newton, N. J.
 Johnson, J. Cumming, Memphis, Tenn.
 Johnson, N. St., Mobile, Ala.
 Jones, B. C., Notaway C. H., Va.
 Jones, Mary K., Bowling Green, Ky.
 Jones, Mrs. Jennie M., Park Hill, Cherokee Nation.
 Jordan, Edward L., Murfreesboro, Tenn.
 Judson, Elizabeth H., Oswegatchie, N. Y.
 Kellogg, Miss Susan L., Malden, N. Y.
 Kellogg, Nancy Jane, Ypsilanti, Mich.
 Kellogg, Bela H., Hartford, Conn.
 Kellogg, Miss Eliza, Peoria, Ill.
 Kellogg, Sarah Josephine, Le Roy, N. Y.
 Kellogg, John, Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Kellogg, Paulina W., Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Kellogg, Daniel, 2d, Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Kellogg, Harriet N., Indianapolis, Ind.
 Kelly, Seth, Elmira, N. Y.
 Kerr, Mrs. Mary, Pigeon Creek, Pa.
 Kerr, Elias, Sand Beach, N. Y.
 Kerr, W. D., Fulton, Mo.
 Key, Joseph W., Port Royal, Va.
 Keyes, Rev. P. G., Watertown, N. Y.
 Kiersted, John, Sangerites, N. Y.
 Kimball, Rev. Joseph, Brookport, N. Y.
 Kimball, Mrs. Charlotte M., Kingston, N. Y.
 Kimball, Miss Angeline, Bath, Me.
 King, James, Salem, N. Y.
 King, Tuthill, Chicago, Ill.
 King, Miss Nancy, Chicago, Ill.
 King, William, Savannah, Ga.
 Kingsbury, Mrs. Electa M., Pine Ridge, Choctaw Nation.
 Kirk, John, Candor, N. Y.
 Kirk, Miss Caroline, Chicago, Ill.
 Kline, Miss Caroline, Norristown, Pa.
 Knapp, Mrs. Mary, Foxboro, Mass.
 Knauf, John, Oval, Pa.
 Knight, Geo. W., Nottaway co., Va.
 Knight, Mrs. C. T., Nottaway co., Va.
 Krebs, Miss Catharine, Norwich, Conn.
 Krusen, Mrs. Ellen, Northampton, Pa.
 Lacy, Rev. B. F., Salem, N. Y.
 Ladin, Miss Grace, Pittsfield, Mass.
 Lafon, Dr. Joseph, Palmira, Mo.
 Lake, Mary A., Chicago, Ill.
 Lake, D. J., Chicago, Ill.
 Lambach, Samuel, Pleasant Hill, Pa.
 Landies, Mrs. Elizabeth K., Indianapolis, Ind.
 Lane, Rev. Wm. K., Goldsboro, N. C.
 Lane, Mrs. S. C., Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Lawrence, Richard, New York city.
 Lawrence, W. E., New York city.
 Laws, Rev. S. S., Fulton, Mo.
 Leach, David K., New Fairfield, Conn.
 Leach, Isaac K., New Fairfield, Conn.
 Le Duc, Rev. Charles S., Hastings, Min. Ter.
 Lee, Thomas F., Ellington, Conn.
 Lee, Mrs. George W., Norwich, Conn.
 Leitch, George F., Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Leitch, David K., Skaneateles, N. Y.
 Lennell, Elijah, Adrian, Mich.
 Lentz, David, Allentown, Pa.
 Leonard, Thomas W., Lockport, N. Y.
 Leonard, Joseph E., Griswold, Conn.
 Lescher, Emily, Easton, Pa.
 Lester, Mrs. Lucy D., Griswold, Conn.
 Levan, Miss Keturah, Oley, Pa.
 Lewis, Theodore C., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Lewis, Miss Kate H., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Lewis, Miss Lucy M., Milton, N. C.
 Lewis, Richard H., Pitt co., N. C.
 Lewis, Mrs. Sophia, Hartford, Conn.
 Lewis, E. P. C., Berryville, Va.
 Lilly, Anna Leak, Fayetteville, N. C.
 Lincoln, Horatio B., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Lincoln, Mrs. Eliz. Barnard, Hartford, Conn.
 Lindsay, Jesse H., Greensboro, N. C.
 Lockwood, Mrs. Uriah, Greenwich, Conn.
 Logan, Mrs. Sarah B., Flint Hill, Mo.
 Look, Horace, Collinsville, Ill.
 Loomis, C. C., Suffield, Conn.
 Loper, Rev. Stephen A., Trumbull, Conn.
 Lord, Esther M., Boonboro, Ark.
 Lovie, Miss Ellen C., Newport, R. I.
 Lowe, Mrs. Elizabeth, New Shannock, N. J.
 Luther, Rev. John Hill, Pendleton, S. C.
 Lynde, John D., New York city.
 Lyon, Emory, Providence, R. I.
 Lyon, Frederick M., Newark, N. J.
 Lyon, John V., Adrian, Mich.
 Macdougall, Mrs. Emily E., Sherburne, N. Y.
 Mackay, James, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Maclin, Wm. Henry, Wesley, Tenn.
 Magie, Miss Elizabeth, Elizabeth, N. J.
 Maginnis, Julia Elizabeth, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.
 Malcom, Rev. Thomas S., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Mallory, Rev. Samuel T., Louisa, Ky.
 Manney, Wm., Franklin, Tenn.
 Mansfield, Mrs. Sarah, Ashtabula, Ohio.
 Mansfield, Horace, New Haven, Conn.
 Marble, Joel, Providence, R. I.
 Marden, Anna L., New Haven, Conn.
 Marquardt, Rev. John George, New York city.
 Marsh, Mrs. Nancy, Providence, R. I.
 Marten, Rev. Alexander, Hanover co., Va.
 Martin, Isaac, Milburn, N. J.
 Martin, Prof. Charles, Hampden, Va.
 Martin, John, Nelsonville, Mo.
 Marvin, Simson, Green, N. Y.
 Massey, Mrs. Adaline A., Brownville, N. Y.
 Mather, Rev. Oliver Wolcott, White Lake, Mich.
 Mathews, Miss Hannah, Upper Darby, N. Y.
 Mathews, Rev. Henry, Shepherdstown, Va.
 Matson, Augustin, South Granby, N. Y.
 Mattoon, A. Theresa, Le Roy, N. Y.
 Maxwell, A. L., Knoxville, Tenn.
 Mayn, A., Shelbyville, Ky.
 M'Affee, Joseph, New Providence, Mo.
 M'Bean, Mrs. Jane D., Westchester, N. Y.
 M'Clure, Mrs. Martha A., Paris, Ky.
 M'Corkle, Rev. A., Gray Rock, Texas.
 M'Cutchan, Miss Frances A., Peru, Ohio.
 M'Dermott, Charles, Gaines Landing, Ark.
 M'Donald, Mrs. Patsy S., Savannah, Mo.
 M'Ewen, Mary Ann, Stratford, Conn.
 M'Ghee, Rev. John B., Monticello, Ga.
 M'Ilvaine, Richard, Petersburg, Va.
 M'Keager, John, Clarksville, Tenn.
 M'Kee, George C., South Manchester, Conn.
 M'Kenzie, George S., Binghamton, N. Y.
 M'Nair, Rev. John L., Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 M'Nair, Mrs. Fannie, Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 M'Nulty, Rev. Joseph, Hobart, Del. co., N. Y.
 Medley, Rev. John L., Greensburg, Ky.
 Meeker, Jotham C., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Meekle, Rev. Wm., Mobile, Ala.
 Merriam, Lewis, New Haven, Conn.
 Merwin, Isaac, Auburn, N. Y.
 Metcalf, Mrs. Ruth C., Payson, Ill.
 Metz, Anna Elizabeth, Middle Lancaster, Pa.
 Metz, Andrew, Middle Lancaster, Pa.
 Miller, Rev. J. E., Stroudsburg, Pa.
 Miller, George Frederick, Pottstown, Pa.
 Miller, Mrs. Emma Helena, Pottstown, Pa.
 Miller, Edward, Holmdel, N. J.
 Miller, Alanson Douglass, Rochester, N. Y.

- Miller, Julia, Rochester, N. Y.
 Miller, James, Augusta, Ga.
 Miller, Mrs. C. E., Germantown, Tenn.
 Millikan, Daniel, Hamilton, Ohio.
 Mills, George B., Southport, Conn.
 Mirick, Rev. S. H., Charlottesville, Va.
 Mitchell, Mrs. China, Maxville, Ky.
 Mohr, Miss Rebecca S., Mohrsville, Pa.
 Mollison, Gilbert, Jr., Oswego, N. Y.
 Montgomery, Mrs. Joseph Addison, Beloit, Wis.
 Montgomery, Emma Victoria, Beloit, Wis.
 Moore, Sarah M., Newark, N. J.
 Moore, Mrs. E. C., Le Roy, N. Y.
 Morehouse, P., Bloomington, Ill.
 Morgan, Mrs. Frances, New York city.
 Morgan, Mrs. H. T., New York city.
 Morgan, Samuel S., Rochester, N. Y.
 Morrell, J. W., Savannah, Ga.
 Morrison, Rev. Alex. G., Coatsville, Pa.
 Morse, Mrs. H. F., St. Pauls, Min. Ter.
 Morse, Miss Rosalena, Prattville, N. Y.
 Morse, Foster B., Prattville, N. Y.
 Morse, Julia S., Prattville, N. Y.
 Morse, Burton G., Prattville, N. Y.
 Mundy, Rev. Ezra F., Smithtown, N. Y.
 Munroe, Caroline A., Salina, N. Y.
 Munroe, Julia, Salina, N. Y.
 Murray, Mrs. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Myer, Mrs. Winchy, Catsaban, N. Y.
 Myers, Harry H., Canton, Ohio.
 Mynders, Miss Mary, Saugerties, N. Y.
 Mynders, Miss Julia, Saugerties, N. Y.
 Neff, John A., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Nelson, Charles J., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Nettleton, Miss J. Louisa, Stockbridge, Mass.
 Nichols, Chas. Morris, Jr., Providence, R. I.
 Nichols, Henry G., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Nicol, John, Orange, N. J.
 Noel, Rev. Ephraim P., Troy, Mo.
 Nolly, David, Fulton, Mo.
 Nolton, Catharine J., Holland Patent, N. Y.
 Norris, Samuel, Raleigh, N. C.
 Norris, Mrs. Moses, Platte co., Mo.
 Norton, Frances E., Greenville, N. Y.
 Nott, Rev. Dr., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Oaks, Miss Sarah Cordelia, Bridgewater, N. Y.
 Odell, Lewis Seymour, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Okie, J. B., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Olcott, Theodore, Corning, N. Y.
 Ole, Milton, Cherryville, Pa.
 Oliphant, Mrs. Sarah M., St. Louis, Mo.
 Olmstead, William, New Haven, Conn.
 Onderdonk, John, Holley, N. Y.
 Orton, Mrs. Mary S., New Haven, Conn.
 Osborn, Mrs. Lucy R., Rock Island, Ill.
 Osmun, Adonijah, Orange, N. J.
 Owen, Miss Ellen P., Wilmington, N. C.
 Packer, Albert A., Litchfield, Mich.
 Page, E., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Page, Peter, Chicago, Ill.
 Page, Mrs. N. S., Chicago, Ill.
 Palmer, Rev. E. P., Fairfield District, S. C.
 Palmer, Miss Mary, Northampton, Mass.
 Palmer, Israel, Clarkson, N. Y.
 Palmer, Justus, Clarkson, N. Y.
 Pardee, Myron, Oswego, N. Y.
 Park, Miss Martha, Thompsonville, N. J.
 Parker, Lovell E., Wayne, Ohio.
 Parker, Eliza Townsend, New Haven, Conn.
 Parkinson, Rev. M. A., Island Creek, Ohio.
 Parmelee, Mary Jane, Livonia Centre, N. Y.
 Parmelee, Miss Marietta M., Buffalo, N. Y.
 Parshall, Miss Hannah Julia, Farmerville, N. Y.
 Parson, Miss Caroline S., Hartford, Conn.
 Parsons, Mary D., Chicago, Ill.
 Parsons, Mrs. Emily B., Keokuk, Iowa.
 Parsons, Frances Eliza, Detroit, Mich.
 Patton, Mrs. Rebecca B., Pennsylvania Furnace, Ky.
 Parsons, Miss Mary Jane M., New Preston, Conn.
 Paxton, William, Platte City, Mo.
 Payson, Geo. Hubbard, New Hartford, N. Y.
 Peace, William, Raleigh, N. C.
 Pearson, Rev. R. M., Byron, Ill.
 Peck, William, Woodbridge, Conn.
 Peer, Mrs. Theodore A., Montville, N. J.
 Pell, Mary Catharine, Raleigh, N. C.
 Pelton, Charles M., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Pendleton, Miss Caroline, Stratford, Conn.
 Pennington, Melissa Ida, Raleigh, N. C.
 Perkins, Mrs. Eliza B., Warren, Ohio.
 Perry, Mrs. Caroline A., South Woodstock, Conn.
 Perry, Helen Amelia, Utica, N. Y.
 Perry, Miss Martha R., Northville, N. Y.
 Perry, Nathan B., Geneseo, Ill.
 Pert, Thomas, Painted Post, N. Y.
 Peters, James, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Petrie, Rev. George H. W., Marietta, Ga.
 Phillips, Rev. James W., Hannibal, Mo.
 Pierce, Asa C., Northford, Conn.
 Pierce, Mrs. Andraee, Paris Hill, N. Y.
 Pierson, Henry, Orange, N. J.
 Pingry, Miss Julia, Roseville, N. Y.
 Pitcher, Mrs. Philira, Prattville, N. Y.
 Pitkin, Almeria J., East Hartford, Conn.
 Pollay, Mrs. Elizabeth, Columbus, Ohio.
 Pomeroy, Mrs. Janette, St. Louis, Mo.
 Pond, Miss Emily H., Jewett, N. Y.
 Pond, Dorlon J., Jewett, N. Y.
 Pond, Mrs. L. W., Utica, N. Y.
 Pool, Wm. T., Raleigh, N. C.
 Porteous, Mrs. T., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Porteous, Miss Sophia, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Porteous, Wm. H., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Porter, Miss Alice G., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Post, Miss Louisa B., Booneville, N. Y.
 Post, Miss Frances H., St. Louis, Mo.
 Potter, Henry, Bethel, Pa.
 Potter, Joel B., Rockford, Ill.
 Pratt, Charles, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Prentice, Charles H., Hartford, Conn.
 Preston, Egbert C., Hartford, Conn.
 Preston, Mary E., Elmira, N. Y.
 Proctor, Miss S. A., Lewistown, Ill.
 Quick, Mrs. Gerrit S., Harlingen, N. J.
 Ramsey, Seth Thomas, West Hartford, Conn.
 Randall, Rev. D. A., Columbus, Ohio.
 Randall, Peter, Tamaqua, Pa.
 Rankin, Robert G., Astoria, N. Y.
 Rankin, Rev. James G., Barrington, Pa.
 Rankin, Rev. R. G., Warrior's Mark, Pa.
 Rath, Rev. William, Cherryville, Pa.
 Raymond, George L., Chicago, Ill.
 Raymond, Miss Sarah, Utica, N. Y.
 Reese, Milton P., Washington, Ga.
 Reichel, Rev. E. H., Nazareth, Pa.
 Reigel, Thomas G., Jr., Freemansburg, Pa.
 Reinmund, Margaret A., Lancaster, Ohio.
 Reinsohl, William, Massillon, Ohio.
 Remsen, Wm., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Remsen, Mrs. Sarah, New Hackensack, N. Y.
 Reynolds, Mrs. Lydia, Rochester, N. Y.
 Reynolds, Abelard, Rochester, N. Y.
 Reynolds, Rev. Thomas E., Cumberland, Va.
 Rhodes, J. M. F., Jones co., N. C.
 Rice, Rev. George N., Auburn, Mo.
 Richards, Clara, New York city.
 Richards, Benjamin, Canandaigua, N. Y.
 Richards, Miss M. Adelia, Farmington, Conn.
 Richards, Albert, Farmington P. O., Conn.
 Richards, Mrs. Maria T., Providence, R. I.
 Richards, Joseph, Easton, Pa.
 Riley, Richard A., Lakeville, N. Y.
 Robbins, Mrs. Gurdon, Hartford, Conn.
 Roberts, E. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Robertson, Jane M., Rockford, Ill.
 Robinson, Alanson, Buffalo, N. Y.
 Robinson, James H., Danville, Mo.

- Rockey, Mrs. Catharine A., Wooster, Ohio.
 Rogers, Harriet J., Irvington, N. Y.
 Rogers, Miss Fanny S., Albany, N. Y.
 Rogers, Theodore B., Grafton, Ohio.
 Roll, Luther, Augusta, Ga.
 Rollins, Edward Adolphus, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Roos, Nathaniel, Guilford, N. Y.
 Root, Anna P., Chicago, Ill.
 Rose, James, Hartford, Conn.
 Rowell, Samuel N., North Haven, Conn.
 Rowell, Mrs. Samuel N., North Haven, Conn.
 Royce, Dea. D., Berkshire, N. Y.
 Ruliffson, Albert G., Morrisania, N. Y.
 Rumpfseldt, Mrs. Maria, New Orleans, La.
 Rumpfseldt, F. F., New Orleans, La.
 Runk, Wm. Little, New York city.
 Runk, Evelyn Ten Brook, New York city.
 Russell, John W., New Haven, Conn.
 Rust, Miss Laura A., East Hampton, Mass.
 Rutgers, Mrs. Cornelia R., Kingston, Canada W.
 Ryerson, Rev. Joseph E., Augusta, Ga.
 Sahler, Henry, Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 Sahler, J. Hasbrouck, Palmyra, N. Y.
 Sanders, Rev. Marshall D., Jaffa, Ceylon.
 Sands, A. H., Richmond, Va.
 Sandford, Charlotte Tyler, New Haven, Conn.
 Sawyer, E. H., New York city.
 Sayre, Susan E., Madison, N. J.
 Scarborough, Dea. A., Payson, Ill.
 Scarborough, Albigenice, Payson, Ill.
 Schenck, Mrs. Sophia L., Ithaca, N. Y.
 Schmidt, Henry D., Carlisle, Pa.
 Schmucker, Rev. S. S., D. D., Gettysburg, Pa.
 Scholte, Henry P., Pella, Iowa.
 Scofield, Mrs. Sarah M., Corunna, Mich.
 Scott, Albert, Springfield, Pa.
 Scott, Rev. Alexander, Savannah, Ohio.
 Scott, Mrs. Mary, Cleveland, Ohio.
 Scott, David G., Dubuque, Iowa.
 Scranton, Miss Jennet A., Madison, Conn.
 Soudder, John, Savannah, Ga.
 Searle, J. Preston, Schuylersville, N. Y.
 Sears, Lucy E., Webster, Mich.
 Seigfried, D. K., Port Clinton, Pa.
 Segur, Elisha C., Dover, N. J.
 Segur, Harriet C., Dover, N. J.
 Semple, Miss Kate, Fort Adams, Miss.
 Shackelford, James, Wilmington, N. C.
 Sharratta, Rev. Edward, Bloomsburg, Pa.
 Shaw, Eliza L., Buskirk's Bridge, N. Y.
 Sheaffer, Rebecca E., Bucyrus, Ohio.
 Sheeligh, Rev. Matthias, Valatie, N. Y.
 Sheffer, John, Adrian, Mich.
 Sheldon, Mrs. James O., New Brighton, N. Y.
 Sheneberger, Philip, Boalsburg, Pa.
 Shepherd, Rev. J. N., Hamilton, Ohio.
 Sherman, Benjamin P., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Sherman, James, Chicago, Ill.
 Sherwood, Miss Mary Anna, Danbury, Conn.
 Shields, Mrs. Elizabeth P. I., Louisville, Ky.
 Shirley, A. E., Falls of Harrod's Creek, Ky.
 Shook, Philip, Lockport, N. Y.
 Shopbell, Charles E., Elmsport, Pa.
 Shumate, Rev. W. D., Creve Coeur, Mo.
 Silliman, Miss Lorenda C., Troy, N. Y.
 Simmons, W. A., Madison, N. Y.
 Simmons, Rev. James, Providence, R. I.
 Simonton, Rev. L., Mount Zion, Ga.
 Simonton, Mrs. A., Sparta, Ga.
 Sippell, Sarah, Booneville, N. Y.
 Sippell, Melinda, Booneville, N. Y.
 Sippell, Mary J., Booneville, N. Y.
 Skeels, Widow Amos, Swanton Centre, Vt.
 Skiff, Miss Lucy M., Ellsworth, Conn.
 Skinner, Miss Julia E., Marlborough, Conn.
 Slack, Andrew, Clyde, N. Y.
 Slater, Rev. Franklin A., Keyport, N. J.
 Slanson, Miss Sophia, Greenville, N. Y.
 Slanson, Mrs. Sarah Estell, Port Jervis, N. Y.
 Slocumb, J. C., Goldboro', N. C.
 Slossen, Mary Mary H., Kent, Conn.
 Smedley, Julia E., East Bloomfield, N. Y.
 Smedburg, John G., Prattville, N. Y.
 Smith, Mrs. Maria L., Chicago, Ill.
 Smith, Mrs. Elizabeth R., Pigeon Creek, Pa.
 Smith, Abraham, Woodhaven, Queens co., N. Y.
 Smith, Miss Elizabeth, Southport, N. Y.
 Smith, Mrs. Sarah A. R. P., Somers, Conn.
 Smith, Ezra, Buskirk's Bridge, N. Y.
 Smith, Henry, Astoria, N. Y.
 Smith, Wm. C., Huntsville, Texas.
 Smith, Miss Ellen Mack, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Smithson, Miss Sarah, Hanover, N. J.
 Snow, Richard V. W., New York city.
 Snyder, Andrew, Stone Ridge, N. Y.
 Soutter, James T., Astoria, N. Y.
 Spencer, H. E., Hartford, Conn.
 Spencer, Mrs. Mary A., Canton Centre, Conn.
 Spencer, Rev. Thomas, Glendale, Ohio.
 Spencer, Eliza, Glendale, Ohio.
 Sprague, Mrs. Joseph E., Salem, Mass.
 Staebor, Joanna, Salem, N. C.
 Stamwood, Isaac H., Woodville, Miss.
 Stanniford, D. T., New York city.
 Stanton, B. F., 2d, Stonington, Conn.
 Starkweather, C. R., Chicago, Ill.
 Starr, Maria Barkins, Rochester, N. Y.
 Starr, Evelyn White, Rochester, N. Y.
 Stearns, J. N., New York city.
 Stedman, Charles J., Norwich, Conn.
 Steele, Adam, Bloomingburg, Ohio.
 Steele, Mrs. Cornelia, Dayton, Ohio.
 Steger, Mrs. Sarah Jane, Amelia co., Va.
 Stevens, Miss Anna, Greenville, N. Y.
 Stevens, Mrs. Elizabeth, Newport, R. I.
 Stevens, Rev. Thomas, Spruce, Pa.
 Stevens, Mrs. Jane C., Brecksville, Ohio.
 Stevens, Mrs. Alexander C., Twinsburg, Ohio.
 Stevens, Mrs. Matilda, Clinton, Mich.
 Stewart, Mrs. Eliza J., Clarksville, Tenn.
 Stewart, Miss Marion, Clarksville, Tenn.
 Stewart, S. H., Tully, Mo.
 Stickney, Mrs. Emma, Republic, Ohio.
 Stiles, Chas. F., Columbia, Ohio.
 Stillwell, Lewis D., Providence, R. I.
 Stites, Abner, Springfield, N. J.
 St. John, Mrs. Marietta, Newburgh, N. Y.
 Stock, Rev. Jacob, Minersville, Pa.
 Stoddard, John Tappan, Northampton, Mass.
 Storrs, Rev. H. M., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Stough, J. G., Annapolis, Ohio.
 Stowell, Luther T., Orange, N. J.
 Stratton, Rev. Edward, Ashland, N. Y.
 Stribling, Miss Mary Frances, Georgetown, D. C.
 Strong, Addison Kellogg, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Strong, Edward Kellogg, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Sumner, Albert E., Hartford, Conn.
 Sutphen, Joseph H., Freehold, N. J.
 Sweezey, Gilbert H., Yaphank, N. Y.
 Swift, Mrs. Anna M., Cherokee co., Ga.
 Sylvester, Miss A., New York city.
 Sylvester, Eliakim, Lyons, N. Y.
 Taft, Dea. N., Lyons, N. Y.
 Talcott, Miss Mary K., Hartford, Conn.
 Talcott, Mrs. Chester, Coventry, Conn.
 Talcott, Elijah H., North Bergen, N. Y.
 Talmage, R. T. De Witt, Belleville, N. J.
 Tapper, Wm. H., Petersburg, Va.
 Tarbox, John J., Cedarville, Ohio.
 Taylor, Elizabeth, Albany, N. Y.
 Taylor, Mrs. Virginia A., King George co., Va.
 Taylor, Rev. Samuel, Chesterfield co., Va.
 Taylor, G. W., Springfield, Ky.
 Taylor, Rev. Wm. H., High Hill, Mo.
 Temple, Louisa Maria, Aurora, N. Y.
 Temple, Arthur, Aurora, N. Y.
 Temple, Augusta A., Aurora, N. Y.
 Ten Eyck, Mrs. Anna M., Astoria, N. Y.

- Terbell, Mrs. Phebe S., Bridgehampton, N. Y.
 Terry, Seth, Hartford, Conn.
 Thayer, Homer, Hudson, Wis.
 Thomas, James S., Jr., Brookport, N. Y.
 Thomas, Rev. Robert S., Parkville, Mo.
 Thompson, Alexander, Lockport, N. Y.
 Thompson, Mrs. Anna A., Smithfield, N. Y.
 Thompson, Rev. J. W., Berlin, Ohio.
 Thompson, Wm. A., Payson, Ill.
 Thornton, Rev. E. C., Catlettsburg, Ky.
 Thurman, Edward, Albemarle co., Va.
 Thurston, Mary P., Elmira, N. Y.
 Thurston, Clara S., Elmira, N. Y.
 Thurston, Mrs. Cornelia S., Elmira, N. Y.
 Tomlin, Harrison B., Jr., Hanover co., Va.
 Townsend, Margaret C., New York city.
 Tracy, Mary L., Jewett City, Conn.
 Train, Albert S., Hartford, Conn.
 Trask, Luther H., Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Trice, Miss Margaret T., Charlottesville, Va.
 Troutman, George M., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Tubman, Mrs. E. H., Augusta, Ga.
 Tullidge, Rev. Henry, Bloomsburg, Pa.
 Tupper, Louisa R., Hardwick, Mass.
 Tuthill, Mrs. S. J., Elmira, N. Y.
 Tuttle, Mrs. Phebe, Hanover Neck, N. J.
 Ulrich, Mrs. H., Springfield, Ill.
 Upham, Mrs. Marianna, Dixon, Ill.
 Upson, Francis W., Tallmadge, Ohio.
 Upson, James W., Tallmadge, Ohio.
 Urwiner, Mrs. Sarah, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Van Amburg, Rev. Robert, Newport, R. I.
 Van Duzer, Mrs. Catharine M., Newburgh, N. Y.
 Van Dyke, Mrs. Lizzie D., Greenup co., Ky.
 Van Ess, Nehemiah, Watertown, N. Y.
 Van Neste, Mrs. Margaret A., Lodi, N. Y.
 Van Pelt, Mrs. S. B., New York city.
 Voader, Mrs. Mary M., New Haven, Conn.
 Vineyard, Brice W., Platte co., Mo.
 Vining, Susan Mercy, Buffalo, N. Y.
 Vorhees, Cyrenius T., Blawenburg, N. J.
 Vorhees, Garret, Bedminster, N. J.
 Waddell, Rev. John, D. D., Oxford, Miss.
 Wadsworth, Ellen L., Richfield Springs, N. Y.
 Wadsworth, Rev. Henry F., Newfoundland, N. J.
 Waldby, Miss Clara, Adrian, Mich.
 Waldo, Mrs. Rebecca, Prattsburgh, N. Y.
 Walker, Susan, Utica, N. Y.
 Walker, John B., Madison, Ga.
 Waller, Rev. David, Bloomsburg, Pa.
 Walrad, Peter, Homer, N. Y.
 Walrad, Philo, Homer, N. Y.
 Walshe, Miss Mattie, Augusta, Ga.
 Walton, Wm. S., Louisa, Va.
 Ward, W. D., Springfield, Ill.
 Ward, Elias Sayre, Hanover Neck, N. J.
 Waring, Miss Elizabeth M., New York city.
 Warner, Mrs. P. H., Springfield, N. Y.
 Warner, Mrs. Emily, Weston, Mo.
 Washington, Dillingham C., Windham, Ohio.
 Washington, Mrs. V. N., Goldsboro', N. C.
 Watkins, Sarah P., Mendham, N. J.
 Watkins, John L., Milton, N. C.
 Watkins, Mrs. Henrietta, Richmond, Mo.
 Wattson, Thomas, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Weaver, Rev. Joseph M., Taylorsville, Ky.
 Weed, Mrs. Sarah Eliza, New Roads, N. Y.
 Wells, Miss Mary J., Pompey, N. Y.
 Wells, Rev. Cornelius, Niskayuna, N. Y.
 Wells, Mrs. Lucia L., Niskayuna, N. Y.
 West, Edwin, M. D., New York city.
 Weston, Miss Maria, Salem, N. Y.
 Wetmore, Steven Shipman, Kinderhook, N. Y.
 Wheeler, Mrs. Henrietta, Worcester, Mass.
 Wheeler, Rev. Joseph H., Washington, N. C.
 Wheeler, Theodosia Mary, New Haven, Conn.
 Whitaker, Dea. Stephen, Cleveland, Ohio.
 White, Edmund P., Port Royal, Va.
 White, Carrie Hall, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 White, Rev. J., Chillicothe, Ohio.
 Whitescarver, Rev. W. S., Fork Union, Va.
 Whiteside, Col. J. A., Chattanooga, Tenn.
 Whiting, J., Montgomery, Ala.
 Whitmyer, David, Esptown, Pa.
 Whittaker, Marietta, Bellona, N. Y.
 Whittlesey, Rev. Elisha, Kent, Conn.
 Wickham, Mrs. Anne, Hanover C. H., Va.
 Wilcox, Mrs. Lavinia E., Middlebury, Vt.
 Wilcox, Miss Julia, Auburn, N. Y.
 Wildman, Edgar, New York city.
 Wilford, Miss Jenette C., Elba, N. Y.
 Wilkins, Douglas S., South Reading, Vt.
 Willard, Miss Clarissa, Wilton, Conn.
 Willard, Sarah Maria, Decatur, Ga.
 Willard, D. A., Chicago, Ill.
 Willett, Mrs. C. A., Essex, N. Y.
 Williams, Mrs. A. L., Keokuk, Iowa.
 Williams, Charles H., Bloomfield, Conn.
 Williams, Mrs. Merriam, Colosse, N. Y.
 Willis, Miss Phebe, New York city.
 Wilmer, Edmund F., Alexandria, Va.
 Wilson, Mrs. Martha, Port Monmouth, N. J.
 Winfre, Miss Susan Ann, Powhatan co., Va.
 Winner, Miss Mary Ann, Columbia, Tenn.
 Winter, Miss Elizabeth B., Alexandria, Va.
 Wolcott, Guy, Tallmadge, Ohio.
 Wolcott, Ellen E., Tallmadge, Ohio.
 Wolcott, Wm. D., New York Mills.
 Wolcott, Frederick H., New York Mills.
 Wood, Mrs. J. E., Hopkinton, N. Y.
 Wood, Joseph, Nashville, Tenn.
 Wood, Mrs. James, Nashville, Tenn.
 Woodbridge, Mrs. John, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.
 Woodcock, Fenn, Mantorville, Min. Ter.
 Woodford, Orris O., New Haven, Conn.
 Woodruff, Walter C., New Hartford, Conn.
 Woodruff, Rev. Jonathan A., Conneaut, Ohio.
 Wormely, Mrs. Ellen B., Hanover co., Va.
 Wright, Azariah, Jonesville, Mich.
 Wright, Williston S., West Haven, Conn.
 Wright, George Nutting, Wolcott, N. Y.
 Wurts, George, Greenupburg, Ky.
 Wyckoff, Mrs. Eliza, Newburgh, N. Y.
 Wyckoff, Cornelius C., Leamington, N. J.
 Wyle, Rev. Wm. Theodore, Milton, Pa.
 Wyle, Miss Anna, Germantown, Pa.
 Yates, C. G., Greensboro', N. C.
 Yeakel, Rev. Jesse, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Yeakel, Miss Anna, Hoensack, Pa.
 Young, Betty T., Accomac co., Va.
 Young, Miss Mary G., Hanover, N. J.
 Zimmerman, Seth, Mohrville, Pa.

LEGACIES, FROM APRIL 1, 1856, TO APRIL 1, 1857.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.		PENNSYLVANIA.	
Rindge, Mrs. Cynthia H. Brown	\$132 18	Mountain Village, Miss Ann M. Lacky	100 00
VERMONT.		MARYLAND.	
West Cornwall, Jeremiah Brigham	41 66	Baltimore, Miss Mary E. Young	5 00
MASSACHUSETTS.		SOUTH CAROLINA.	
Boston, Nathaniel Perry	1,580 00	Yorkville, John Blair	182 24
RHODE ISLAND.		GEORGIA.	
Providence, John H. Mason	200 00	Liberty County, J. Lambert	25 00
CONNECTICUT.		FLORIDA.	
East Hartford, Mrs. Hannah Bigelow	143 34	Tampa Bay, John Whidden	100 00
Fairfield, Hon. Gideon Tomlinson	200 00	MISSISSIPPI.	
Litchfield, Honour M. Buell	329 53	Port Gibson, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Grafton	500 00
New Haven, William Canada	500 00	Columbus, William H. Craven	400 00
Southbury, Susannah Esther Boyd	755 15	TENNESSEE.	
Southington, Salome Peck	24 14	Lebanon, James Carruth	610 00
Stafford, Mrs. Eleanor Grant	50 00	OHIO.	
NEW YORK.		Bloomville, James Steele	100 00
Buffalo, Jabez Goodell	6,000 00	Cleveland, J. Hubbard	150 00
Catakill, Henry Whittlesey	714 29	Hartford, Olive Sophronia Brookway	16 67
Coldenham, Samuel Scott	50 00	ILLINOIS.	
Davenport Centre, Philo Andrews	118 50	Bond County, Theron Stevens	10 00
Kinderhook, Helen E. Graves	100 00	Chicago, Jeremiah Price	1,000 00
Leyden, Elias Miller	575 00	Granville, Hannah Ware	200 00
Mexico, Peter Chandler	950 00	WISCONSIN.	
New York city, Alexander Thompson	907 98	Beloit, Mrs. Love Colton	750 00
“ James W. Dominick	100 00	Racine, Miss Mary Atwood	50 00
“ Mrs. Elizabeth Stillwell	500 00		
“ Mrs. Maria Banyer	1,000 00		
“ Miss Ann Jay	2,000 00		
Spencertown, William Niles	60 00		
Springfield, Benjamin Rathbun	214 30		
Stockholm, Rodney Smith	90 00		
Utica, Heman Ferry	150 00		
NEW JERSEY.			
Princeton, Robert Voorhees	500 00		
			\$22,114 98

Other donations received during the year, amounting to \$86,296 95, having been specifically acknowledged in the “American Messenger,” are here omitted.

DONATIONS DURING THE YEAR FOR SPECIAL OBJECTS.

For Colportage	\$41,944 04	For Distribution of a Tract on “The Atonement,” by Colporteurs	100 00
For Foreign Distribution	1,368 48	For Distribution of Tracts by Dr. C. Malan, Switzerland	100 00
For General Gratuitous Distribution	101 00	For Perpetuating “The Right Way”	606 00
For Distribution to Seamen and Boatmen	3 00	For Perpetuating “Religion in Common Life”	100 00
For Pastor's Library	10 00		
For Distribution of The Child's Paper	2 36		
For Distribution of “Baxter's Call”	12 50		

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE,

APPOINTED

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

MAY 7, 1856,

TO INQUIRE INTO AND REVIEW THE PROCEEDINGS OF
THE SOCIETY'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE Committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the American Tract Society, to examine and review the proceedings of its Executive Committee, respectfully report :

That they have attended to that service, and held several meetings in the months of March, April, and May at the Tract-house in this city.

The Committee entered upon this duty with a deeply felt sense of their need of Divine aid.

They sought the light of God's Spirit ; and he who never said to "the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain," granted, as we trust, a gracious answer.

It is to be remembered, that the Tract Society was founded, not to discuss disputed questions in theology, or morals, or politics, but to spread the truth in its simplicity and purity, as it is held and loved by all evangelical Christians.

It is due to this interesting occasion, to record with devout thankfulness to God, the harmony and Christian confidence that prevailed in the discussion and adoption of the resolutions on the subject of slavery, forming a part of the Report.

And the Committee cherish the hope, that by the divine blessing, their views of the subject will meet the approbation of their Christian friends in all parts of our country.

It should be constantly borne in mind, that the work of faith is not complete without the labor of love and the patience of hope. And who can doubt, that with such influences as faith, hope, and

charity, in alliance with that chastened patience that loves to wait for the fruit until the harvest-season, this and all other moral evil shall yield to the promised triumphs of the everlasting gospel.

The Committee first met on the 17th day of March. They were most cordially welcomed by the Executive Committee and Secretaries of the Society, who proffered all the aid in their power to the Committee in the investigations and examinations which it might be deemed proper to make, and stated that the whole proceedings of the Society in all their varied departments, and all the records and doings of the several committees, would be open to inspection. They also proffered their own personal aid at any and all times when the Committee might desire it.

This Committee had several meetings, and having placed the investigation into the business and financial affairs of the Society in the hands of a sub-committee, are now enabled to give to the Society the results of their deliberations and examinations.

In their conclusions the Committee were unanimous, and although deprived of the personal presence of three of its members, yet the concurrence of two of them in the important parts of the Report was procured.

During all the sittings of the Committee, they were most cheerfully and fully served by the officers of the Society with all the facilities for their investigations which were desired.

The Committee had most full and free discussions of the various topics embraced in the Report, and for themselves cannot sufficiently express their gratitude to the Father of lights for leading them to harmonious results.

In relation to publishing upon the subject of slavery, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, as marking out the line of discrimination between what the American Tract Society, according to its constitution, may and may not publish :

Resolved, 1. That the American Tract Society was established for a definite purpose, namely, "to diffuse a knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of sinners, and to promote the interests of vital godliness and sound morality, by the circulation of religious tracts calculated to receive the approbation of all evangelical Christians."

2. That this Society cannot therefore with propriety allow itself to be made a special organ of any one system of religious or moral reform, such as temperance, peace, anti-popery, anti-slavery, etc. ;

while within its proper sphere, its influence should sustain the cause of truth and righteousness in all their departments.

3. That in endeavoring to accomplish its high and holy mission, the Society should deal even-handedly, and bear impartial testimony against all forms of fundamental doctrinal error and practical immorality, prevailing in any and every part of our country.

4. That in the judgment of your Committee, the political aspects of slavery lie entirely without the proper sphere of this Society, and cannot be discussed in its publications; but that those moral duties which grow out of the existence of slavery, as well as those moral evils and vices which it is known to promote, and which are condemned in Scripture, and so much deplored by evangelical Christians, undoubtedly do fall within the province of this Society, and can and ought to be discussed in a fraternal and Christian spirit.

5. That whatever considerations in the past may have seemed to recommend to the Publishing Committee the course pursued in its revision of certain works, yet, in the future publication of books and tracts, no alteration or omission of the sentiments of any author should be made; but works not adapted to the design of the Society in their original form, or by a regular impartial abridgment, should be wholly omitted.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, 6. That it be recommended to the Society to adopt the following alteration in the eleventh article of the Constitution, instead of the one proposed at the last annual meeting, namely, to add the words, "notice of the proposed alteration having been given at the previous annual meeting." The article will then read:

"ARTICLE XI. This Constitution shall not be altered except at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; notice of the proposed alteration having been given at the previous annual meeting."

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS.

In reference to the general management and financial affairs of the Society, the Committee made such examinations and investigations as seemed to be required by the general nature of the powers conferred by the Society in their appointment.

These necessarily were of a comprehensive character, and were divided into several distinct parts, which are essentially embraced in the statement of a Special Committee which is hereto attached, the

substance of which was elicited in answers to questions proposed to the officers and committees of the Society.

The questions submitted, and the answers given by the committees, are also appended to this report, and will be found to contain several interesting and important facts not embraced in the preceding statement.

There is also appended to this Report a statement of the salaries paid to the Secretaries and others employed at the Society's house, and also a statement of the principal agencies in colportage operations. These all show that the Society pays no extravagant salaries, allows no perquisites, and that economy and good management extend through these branches of the Society's operations.

There were upon the committee no practical book-men, and it was deemed proper to ask the aid of some eminent book publishers in an examination of the mode of conducting the business. These gentlemen gave their cheerful attention, and their examination and inquiries resulted in a report highly creditable to the management of this extensive business. That report is as follows :

"NEW YORK, April 14, 1857.

"Having examined with considerable care, by a personal visitation to and inspection of the different departments of manufacture, the operations of the American Tract Society in regard to the cost of paper, printing, engraving, and binding of the books issued by the said Society, we are of opinion that great care and economy are exercised in each department.

"We have also considered the subject of prices at which their books are sold by the Society, and are satisfied that those prices are barely sufficient to meet the cost of manufacture and circulation.

"JOHN HARPER,
"ROBERT CARTER,
"JOHN WILEY."

THE MODE OF KEEPING THE ACCOUNTS.

The Committee, among other subjects of inquiry, have examined the mode of keeping the accounts by the treasurer.

This is simple in its form, but well adapted to the business of which it is the record. All moneys received from all sources and by all the agents of the Society are entered in the journal when received, or if not paid to the treasurer, when reported by the agents. These sums are duly posted to their proper heads in the ledger, and

at the same time in their daily amounts are carried into the bank-book. Every month these sums in detail are carefully footed up and published in the Messenger. A regular entry of these monthly amounts is made in the proper book, which compares with the amounts in the Messenger.

The whole amount received passes through the bank, except the petty cash account, which has its proper place in the business. The system of checks in the different accounts is such as to detect the slightest error at once.

All payments are accompanied by the proper vouchers, and an examination of an ordinary character given by an examining committee is sufficient to test the accuracy of the whole. A more complicated system of keeping the accounts, by double entry, would in the opinion of the Committee add nothing to their correctness and give no greater safeguard.

The proper auditing of the accounts by the Committee gives the highest assurance that every thing is rightly done. The system of accounting is well adapted to the business transacted, and needs no change to insure the most entire accuracy.

The publication of all receipts in the Messenger from month to month insures against all suppression of payments made to the treasurer. The vouchers monthly examined, with the balances in bank and on hand, insures against misapplication. The annual report gives all the receipts and disbursements, and any person having access to the Messenger can test the accuracy of the yearly accounts. A reference to those reports will show clear and explicit statements of every thing connected with the property, the business affairs, the receipts and expenditures, and transactions of the Society, in which the public can have any interest.

The Committee believe that the whole financial business of the Society at the Tract-house is managed and conducted with an economy and fidelity worthy of all praise.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE SOCIETY'S OPERATIONS.

As a whole the business of the Society, in point of fidelity and economy, is well managed, and no part of their present operations can with propriety be curtailed. The wants of the destitute will continue to demand expansion. The field for effort is daily opening, and the channels of usefulness becoming deeper and broader, and the Society is called upon to enter and occupy all these approaches to the perishing. They cannot stop any branch of their business without seriously

interfering with others which need enlargement. Their system of book and tract publication and distribution has grown up under the influence of causes which have controlled them. It has thus far produced only good fruits to the glory of God, and should not be disturbed.

The Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, 7. That we gratefully acknowledge the favor of divine Providence in the blessing which has rested upon the American Tract Society, in its onward progress of success and prosperity, and the beneficent influence it has exerted upon our country and the world.

8. That we cordially recognize the fidelity and devotedness with which the interests of the Society have been superintended and conducted by the officers and Executive Committee, five of the present members having been among its original founders.

9. That with great confidence in the wisdom of the Executive Committee, we anticipate that their action, in carrying out the principles contained in the previous resolutions, will be such as will tend to promote the widest and best usefulness of this Society throughout our whole country.

THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN,
THOMAS DE WITT,
WILLIAM JESSUP,
ALBERT BARNES,
G. T. BEDELL,
JOHN N. McLEOD,
JOEL HAWES,
RAY PALMER,
S. S. SCHMUCKER,
JAMES DONALDSON,
FRANCIS WAYLAND,
MARK HOPKINS,
JOHN S. STONE,
GEO. H. STUART.

NEW YORK, May 12, 1857.

STATEMENT

OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH AND AID THE INQUIRIES OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE SOCIETY'S FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS.

WELCOMING all inquiries, and the most thorough investigation, the Special Committee first of all frankly state, that they know of nothing in the Society's business transactions to be concealed, or which, if fully known, would not be satisfactory to the Christian community. Three of the Special Committee are merchants familiar with financial transactions and institutions, and they are unanimous in the belief that the accuracy and economy of this Society's business transactions, and the distinctness with which they have been annually reported, will bear a favorable comparison with those of other kindred institutions. Yet, conscious of imperfection, they will be grateful for any suggestions whatever, whereby the usefulness and efficiency of the Society may be advanced.

They would also state, that most of the inquiries which have been proposed appear to them to be answered, far more fully and satisfactorily than can here be done, in the Society's Annual Reports, especially that of the last year; yet they most cheerfully comply with the desire expressed, that they should give a summary view of such knowledge as they have of the Society's business operations.

In confirmation of their statements, and to facilitate such further inquiries as the Committee of Investigation may wish to make, the Special Committee herewith lay upon their table the following documents, records, vouchers, and papers now prepared for their use:

1. The thirty-one Annual Reports, with tables of contents in those of later years; the Report for 1850 containing a summary view of the Society's history for a quarter of a century, especially pages 27-31; that for 1847 containing a report to the Legislature of New York, pages 113-116, answering many of the inquiries now proposed, and also a notice of the reërection of the Tract-house, and new arrangements for its printing and binding, pages 30-35; that for 1849 a notice of the enlargement of the Society's premises, pages 36-40; and that for 1855 the donations received for special objects and the number of each volume printed, pages 287-291. The Reports for 1841 page 124, and 1842 page 103, contain the act of incorporation; and all the later Reports give statements of the expense and receipts of the Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper.

2. The Books of Minutes of the Society, of the Board of Directors, of the Publishing, the Distributing, and the Finance Committees,

and of the Executive Committee whose minutes sanction all the proceedings of the three first-named Committees. In the minutes of the Finance Committee for December 17, 1852, is a full report on the Society's business operations as presented by a Special Committee.

3. A file of the American Tract Magazine and American Messenger, containing the items of the Society's monthly receipts, both in donations and for sales, from the time of its formation.

4. The accounts of the Assistant Treasurer and Depository, and specimens of the bills and vouchers from the treasury department annually laid before the auditors, and from the printing and binding departments annually laid before the Finance Committee.

5. Statements of the salaries paid to executive officers, agents, and colporteurs, with a summary of the expense of the eight principal colporteur agencies now established at Rochester, Philadelphia, Richmond, Charleston, New Orleans, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Chicago.

SUMMARY VIEW

OF THE SOCIETY'S TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES IN THIRTY-TWO YEARS, TO APRIL 1, 1857, INCLUDING FOREIGN CASH APPROPRIATIONS, ETC.

YEAR.	RECEIPTS.			PRINTED.		CIRCUL'D.	GRANTS.	FOREIGN	
	DONATIONS.	SALES.	TOTAL.	PAGES.	PAGES.	PAGES.	PAGES.	GRANTS IN CASH.	NEW PUBL.
1 ----	\$6,925 56	\$3,233 22	\$10,158 78	8,053,500	3,611,500	148,000	-----	-----	215
2 ----	8,556 96	21,843 05	*30,413 01	36,114,500	24,768,232	1,648,056	-----	-----	22
3 ----	12,464 38	32,670 20	45,134 58	53,667,000	46,321,784	3,805,704	-----	-----	103
4 ----	25,173 18	34,980 80	60,153 98	68,316,000	48,895,292	2,992,881	-----	\$650	92
5 ----	11,755 65	48,454 59	60,210 24	63,429,030	62,360,444	5,086,261	-----	300	67
6 ----	8,784 82	34,137 77	42,922 59	68,786,000	68,522,704	4,163,800	-----	300	73
7 ----	24,474 78	37,430 29	61,905 07	88,547,000	66,160,457	4,788,110	-----	5,044	46
8 ----	31,229 25	31,117 58	62,346 83	39,700,508	49,400,607	7,480,607	-----	10,000	35
9 ----	35,212 25	31,169 26	66,381 51	51,534,624	57,633,070	9,956,929	-----	20,000	46
10 ----	60,727 42	31,680 39	92,407 81	53,804,652	53,916,358	8,535,267	-----	30,000	55
11 ----	56,638 04	47,573 37	104,211 41	101,293,584	72,480,229	9,539,760	-----	135,500	55
12 ----	71,932 36	50,058 92	130,991 28	125,682,000	96,851,174	10,867,616	-----	136,000	41
13 ----	37,173 74	54,558 36	91,732 10	48,377,100	86,479,621	8,893,743	-----	10,000	46
14 ----	55,852 81	75,226 96	131,079 77	124,744,000	119,733,356	10,631,676	-----	30,000	33
15 ----	41,475 49	76,120 67	117,596 16	117,070,000	123,687,707	15,973,446	-----	20,000	34
16 ----	41,751 61	57,210 98	98,962 59	95,938,500	80,581,565	11,908,265	-----	25,000	26
17 ----	34,941 03	56,214 11	91,155 14	100,108,000	94,329,045	15,604,510	-----	15,000	32
18 ----	42,433 98	49,904 13	*96,240 53	78,844,000	80,806,460	18,682,456	-----	15,000	54
19 ----	56,680 31	51,894 13	108,484 44	96,118,000	91,471,456	24,315,121	-----	20,000	41
20 ----	62,306 38	86,296 01	*152,376 78	157,018,000	152,727,229	26,749,445	-----	6,000	68
21 ----	71,132 16	82,784 00	153,916 16	116,173,000	133,642,593	30,705,246	-----	15,000	73
22 ----	67,770 88	92,360 24	160,131 12	150,013,696	153,575,624	35,926,208	-----	10,000	48
23 ----	105,915 15	129,744 31	235,659 46	217,499,000	211,730,285	40,948,459	-----	11,000	68
24 ----	94,081 43	164,218 73	258,300 16	298,364,000	234,409,300	47,890,225	-----	14,000	145
25 ----	105,894 80	202,371 92	308,266 72	307,636,200	250,697,500	58,138,820	-----	15,000	73
26 ----	109,897 76	200,720 33	310,618 09	285,914,500	269,954,615	56,638,543	-----	20,000	78
27 ----	116,406 41	226,343 50	342,749 91	316,518,500	283,266,568	65,164,181	-----	20,000	96
28 ----	147,374 64	237,252 21	384,626 85	287,479,500	268,992,315	73,224,841	-----	20,000	157
29 ----	150,033 48	259,123 12	415,156 60	303,851,000	315,100,857	73,224,824	-----	20,000	76
30 ----	147,298 13	265,875 73	413,173 86	341,427,500	292,301,233	77,605,506	-----	16,000	26
31 ----	158,435 08	257,171 61	415,606 59	309,039,500	283,692,704	80,597,418	-----	17,500	105
32 ----	153,985 95	266,599 44	420,585 39	289,523,184	282,899,770	77,420,920	-----	18,000	179
2,160,715 87				4,579,639,434	4,503,340,851	918,556,744	\$475,394		

* Including receipts from rents: 2d year, \$13; 18th year, \$3,902 48; 20th year, \$3,774 39.

† Including grants for the blind: 11th year, \$500; 12th year, \$1,000.

The RECEIPTS of the Society for thirty-two years, to April 1, 1857, exclusive of receipts for rents, have been as above, viz. :

Donations and legacies	\$2,160,715 87
Sales	3,805,151 83
	\$5,465,867 70

PAID during the same period for manufacturing publications, including expense for paper, printing, binding, machinery, stereotyping, engraving, copy-right, and small payments for writing, revising, and books and Bibles purchased \$3,226,100 60

Foreign appropriations in cash 475,294 00

Colportage, including use of conveyances, travelling expenses, meals, lodgings, horse-keeping, tolls, freight, postage, stationery, exchange charged in their accounts, and salaries of superintendents and expenses of depositories for the same 952,070 90

Salaries of secretaries, assistants, and clerks employed in the Tract-house, (being about 5 per cent. of the total receipts,) 268,989 81

Agents' salaries and travelling expenses 325,652 38

Boxes, cartage, postage, insurance, taxes, exchange, repairs, advertising, and all other expenses, as per items specified in the reports of the Treasurer 213,794 17

\$5,461,901 81

Add balance in the treasury April 1, 1857 3,965 89

\$5,465,867 70

The above statements of receipts and expenditures are facts from the Treasurer's annual reports, strictly accurate and reliable. The receipts, both in donations and for sales, have been publicly acknowledged monthly, item by item, in the Tract Magazine and American Messenger; and the whole expenditure has been sanctioned, item by item, by the Finance Committee in their minutes, and the accounts and vouchers, (all of which are still preserved,) have been annually examined and certified as correct by the auditors.

The 918,556,744 pages of *publications granted*, as in the above list, amount, at 25 per cent. discount, to \$459,278 37.

THE SOCIETY'S MEANS IN POSSESSION AND USE.

A STATEMENT APPENDED TO THE TREASURER'S REPORT, APRIL 1, 1857.

"The Society has no permanent vested funds, or other property, besides its house and the ground it occupies, corner of Nassau and Spruce streets, New York; the machinery, printed sheets, paper, stereotype plates, engravings, and other materials in use in conducting its operations; the publications in its depository, and in the hands of colporteurs and others for circulation and sale; and stock

or pledges to the amount of three or four thousand dollars not immediately available.

"Its house, now valued, with the lot, by the city assessors at \$114,000, and on which is a debt of \$21,000, was erected, and has been rebuilt and enlarged, by means of \$25,852 95 originally contributed in New York for that specific object, and the proceeds of rents ; the annual rent of parts of the building not now occupied by the Society April 1, 1857, being \$5,850, which is applied as a sinking fund to the reduction of the debt. Balance of rent fund in hand, \$136 10. The accounts for the building have always been kept distinct from those for the Society's general purposes.

"The machinery, presses, and materials in the Tract-house for printing and binding, are *estimated* to be worth *for the Society's use*, \$67,772 ; sheet stock, paper, stereotype plates, and engravings, \$114,395 ; books in the Depository, \$79,999 ; books in the hands of colporteurs, \$119,528 18 ; due from auxiliaries and others, \$15,891 47, of which \$4,313 19 is due from foreign lands, chiefly in the hands of missionaries for sale and gratuitous distribution. Due for paper as above, \$20,769 24 ; balance in the treasury, \$3,965 89." The stock of books on hand and on sale, and of other materials, is always kept as low as consistent with the Society's usefulness.

It will be observed that the Society's *house* was originally provided for its use by the liberality of citizens of New York, who contributed upwards of \$25,800 for this specific purpose, chiefly before the Society was organized ; and that the expenses of rebuilding and enlarging it have been paid from the proceeds of rents of stores and offices not occupied by the Society, and rents of the printing office and bindery which were paid to the building fund while the Society's work was done by contract, and continued for some years afterwards, but have now been discontinued. The Society now pays no rent for its use of the building ; and is not expected to receive any thing for its general purposes from the rents of stores and offices, until the debt of \$21,000 as above is paid.

It will also be observed, that the machinery, printed sheets, books in the Depository and in the hands of colporteurs, (for providing which, special donations of more than \$50,000 have been contributed,) are all *in active use in the Society's work, and must be constantly renewed as fast as used*. The stock of printed sheets is constantly drawn upon to supply the bindery and depository ; the depository is constantly drawn upon to supply auxiliaries, colporteurs, and others ; and those thus circulating the publications demand

a daily resupply ; to meet which demand the manufacturing must be steadily continued.

More than one-third of the means thus in use, as estimated in the paragraph above, consists of steam-power, presses, stereotype plates, engravings, paper, binder's stock, and other materials *necessarily employed in manufacturing.*

The stock in the depository, amounting to \$79,999, cannot, in the opinion of the Committee, be reduced consistently with a due regard to economy and efficiency. It is barely sufficient to meet promptly the orders of colporteurs and others engaged in the circulation ; and the issues from it annually are about three times this amount.

The amount in the hands of colporteurs and colporteur agencies, \$119,528, distributed among 450 colporteurs, gives an average of but about \$265 in publications to each, which is barely sufficient for active and successful service.

It is also a fact, that if the stock could be increased so that the paper, boards, leather, and other materials, could be better dried and seasoned before they are used in manufacturing, and the books also after they are manufactured, before they are put in circulation, durability and true economy would be consulted. An increase of \$50,000 in the amount of the stock and materials would essentially increase the Society's usefulness.

Thus the Society, with all existing facilities, lives "from hand to mouth," asking for "daily bread," every week's obligations being usually beyond the means in hand. In view of its wants, the members of the Committee, besides their wholly gratuitous labors, have contributed many thousands of dollars from their own personal funds to aid its operations ; and in the deficiency of means to purchase printing paper for cash, they have, from time to time, given their individual notes or endorsements, payable at the banks, to the amount of several hundred thousand dollars.

If the Committee and executive officers dared to neglect their work, and leave the souls of men to perish ; or if the Society could rest in its house till the ignorant and perishing should feel their need and call for its publications, their work might be comparatively light ; but while they hear the voice, "*Go ye, and preach the gospel to every creature,*" "necessity is laid upon them," and they may not halt nor falter in their course. Notwithstanding the Society's necessities from time to time, it is not known that any grant for the destitute, or the commission of any colporteur, has ever been withheld on the ground of a want of pecuniary means.

ISSUING OF THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS.

The Publishing Committee select and prepare what is to be published ; the Distributing Committee make the grants of publications for the destitute, and regulate the prices and discounts at which the books are sold ; and the Finance Committee procure the paper, printing, and binding, and appoint the agencies employed in their circulation and in raising funds.

The *paper*, which is nearly half of the whole outlay in manufacturing, was chiefly bought by Mr. R. T. Haines, in connection with the Depositary, till 1852, and since then by Mr. O. E. Wood, in connection with Mr. Brown, printer in the press department, and the Assistant Treasurer.

The *printing and binding* were done by contract till about the year 1847, when the Society's present house was erected ; and the Committee then procured machinery and presses and employed a competent printer in the press department, another in the composition department, a binder, and an engraver, each on a salary, to devote himself to the Society's interests in these respective departments. By these gentlemen the requisite materials are procured and laborers employed, as by other printers and binders, for doing the Society's work, and the whole expense is paid by the Society. The Finance Committee have a special standing Committee on the printing and binding, one of whom is the Secretary for the publishing department, who give constant attention to this branch of the Society's operations ; and at the close of each Society's year, a special committee is appointed, who review the whole expenses of the year and compare the outlay and cost with the cost of doing the same work by contract, and with the market prices of the city, to ascertain that all is done with strict economy, and so as best to husband the Society's resources. The change from having the work done by contract to its being thus done by the Society, was made after serious consideration ; and the result has thus far unquestionably proved, that, with the present amount of the Society's printing and binding, and securing the services of capable, efficient, conscientious men well qualified and deeply interested in the success of their respective departments, the interests of the Society, in regard at once to the quality and the cost of the work done, have been better subserved than they have ever been, or probably could have been, by contract. There is found to be not only convenience, but essential practical benefit, in having the talents and entire energies of a competent

printer, binder, and engraver devoted from day to day to the one object of securing the Society's best interests.

In adopting means for *circulating* the Society's publications, it has never established *Depositories* of publications to be sold on commission, or returned if unsold. The experience of the American Tract Society at Boston, before the Society at New York was formed, and the losses sustained through such depositories, was a warning to this Society not thus to expose its publications to injury, waste, and loss. In the earlier part of the Society's history, auxiliary societies aided extensively in the circulation, as did also systematic tract visitation, especially in large towns. In 1834 the system of volume circulation by volume agents, was entered on and vigorously prosecuted for some years, chiefly by sale in churches and congregations, in all parts of the land. But in 1841 the great fact was brought distinctly to view, that millions of the most destitute, neglected, and needy of our population were not thus reached; and Providence seemed to point to the system of *Colportage*, then unknown in this country, as peculiarly adapted to that scattered population, combining with the presentation of the best books the warm appeals of the living voice. As the colporteur work became extended over the country, it was found that faithful Superintendents of colportage must be appointed at large commercial centres to watch over, supply with books, and under the direction of the Committee, guide and assist the colporteurs in their respective fields. And as there must be under the care of the Superintendents at these commercial centres supplies of books for colporteurs, rooms or stores at most of them were opened, from which the adjacent community could also be supplied at the Society's prices; and the Society has now eight such colporteur agencies, as above mentioned. At Boston the Branch American Tract Society, and at Baltimore the Maryland Branch, are independent societies, maintaining their own establishments, and ordering publications from this Society.

The *one object* of the Committee and executive officers, in all these arrangements for circulating the publications, has been to select and prepare the books best adapted to honor Christ in the salvation of men; and to employ the Society's means and energies to circulate them in the most economical and useful manner, *whether by sale or gift*, wherever Providence opens the way of access; selling to those able and willing to buy, giving to the destitute, and sending faithful colporteurs through all the desolations of the land, at whatever reasonable cost, to penetrate the moral wastes, summon

the attention of the careless, and by truth on the printed page, and from lips of love, make known the Saviour's name. The aim of issuing books for the sake of *profit on the sales*, has never entered into the counsels of the Committee ; but the moral desolations of the land, and the best means of supplying them, at whatever cost, have engaged their anxious counsels and earnest prayers.

PRICES OF THE PUBLICATIONS, AND DISCOUNTS.

The Committee have wished that the prices of its publications, which the Society's constitution prescribes, "shall be as far as practicable the same in all parts of the United States," should be as low as practicable, to accommodate the millions of purchasers whose means are limited, and yet not so low that the issuing of the publications sold should be a constant drain on the Society's charitable resources. On this principle the Committee have endeavored to arrange the prices ; and they have regarded the circulation of by far the larger portion of the Society's issues by sale, at such prices as not essentially to diminish or increase the Society's pecuniary resources, a most economical and useful department of its operations.

At the formation of this Society, in the original terms of union with the American Tract Society at Boston, whose operations were then larger than all the other Tract operations of the country united, and still constitute much of the efficiency of this Society, it was agreed that the publications should be furnished to that Society "on as low terms as they could be published" by the Committee of that Society in Boston. For many years 25 per cent. discount was allowed to that Society on the large supplies it regularly ordered, which discount was some years since increased to 27½ per cent. ; and careful examination, and estimates procured in that city, have satisfied that Committee that the publications cannot there be published on lower terms. That Society in its steadfast coöperation with this has not only paid for all the publications ordered, but has appropriated through this Society more than \$80,000 in donations for foreign and pagan lands, and more than \$140,000 for the salary of from fifty to seventy of this Society's colporteurs. Less rates of discount have also been allowed to branches and auxiliaries at other commercial centres throughout the country, and a discount of 20 per cent. for cash is made to all booksellers and others who buy to sell again, they paying freight and other expenses.

As the business of *booksellers* is not, like that of the Society, to push the circulation among the destitute at a pecuniary sacrifice,

and the Society cannot *exchange* publications with them, this discount of 20 per cent. for cash does not afford sufficient profit for mercantile purposes; and the Society's circulation is mostly in its own channels, distinct from those of the trade. These distinct channels leading extensively to the destitute, and the fact that the Society's books are selected mainly with reference to the spiritual welfare of the reader, rather than to meet the current demands of the market, happily prevent in a great degree the interference of the Society's operations with those of the trade, while the Society's colporteur and other benevolent efforts are training up readers, and in the long run creating a demand on all publishers of useful books. Intimations are sometimes heard that the Society's prices are *too low*, so that it must draw largely on donations to issue them, as no bookseller can live in issuing books at such rates; and again, that were they twenty-five per cent. higher, the Society could afford a liberal discount to booksellers; and again, some reluctant donor may suggest that by adding such a per cent. to the prices, no donations would be needed; but the insuperable objection still remains, that thus to raise the prices would throw a corresponding burden on every humble and perhaps indigent individual purchaser throughout the land, and turn away the Society from its appropriate work of benevolence, to the business of making profit by its sales. In the main, the Society has occasion gratefully to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy as well as the personal contributions of Christian booksellers, and the confidence of the Christian community in general in this department of its operations.

CONSIDERATIONS IN DETERMINING THE PRICES OF BOOKS.

The term "*selling at cost*" has two widely different meanings, and is rarely, if ever, used in the Society's documents. One meaning, in common parlance, seems to include simply the amount paid for the three items of *paper*, *presswork*, and *binding*, irrespective of stereotyping, engravings, and all other expenses. The other meaning includes *the whole outlay from the Society's treasury for preparing, publishing, and circulating*. The difference between the two meanings may vary perhaps from 25 to 33 per cent. If an agent of the Society should urge that the means in its treasury are not increased by issuing the publications sold, and a printer who hears him thinks he means that the prices cover only what is paid for *paper*, *presswork*, and *binding*, the printer, with this misunderstanding, will naturally question the accuracy of the statement, or infer want of economy in

making the books, as he can perhaps furnish the three items for less than the price.

Suppose the average cost of the paper, presswork, and binding of the Society's publications to be $36\frac{1}{4}$ cents, and that the average price is 50 cents, (a difference equal to the discount allowed to the Society at Boston,) will the Society's treasury be increased or diminished by issuing what is sold? Besides the three items mentioned, the Society's treasury must pay for the stereotyping or electrotyping; in many cases for engravings, maps, and copy-rights; for the labor and expense of preparing the publications for the press, and of all the agencies and processes for circulating them, (including millions of four-page tracts retailed at four-fifteenths of a cent each,) throughout all our boundaries from Canada to Texas: then the *discounts* must be made to branch societies and booksellers; the stereotype plates and engravings must perhaps be renewed; there will be fluctuations in the price of paper and other materials and of labor, and items of expense and loss which no human sagacity can foresee.

Nothing is more certain than that no set of prices can be fixed by which the outlay from the Society's treasury in the production and circulation of its publications sold shall be exactly returned to its treasury in the receipts for sales, and the same is true of all similar societies and boards. Nor does it seem to be very essential that this should be exactly foreseen. The Society's work is one: to extend the Redeemer's kingdom; and whether its treasury is somewhat increased or diminished by issuing the books sold, can scarcely be regarded as a question of momentous import. Whenever there has seemed reason for changing the price of any book it has been done, and the Committee are most ready to make any further changes that shall be for the general good.

AGENTS AND COLPORTEURS.

The employing of the Society's Agents and Colporteurs has been a difficult and responsible service, requiring ceaseless vigilance, many laborers exceeding, and others falling short of the expectations of the Committee; but they would be grateful that they have had the coöperation of so large a body of faithful, prayerful, self-sacrificing, persevering men, whose hearts have been intent on winning souls to Christ, and whose correspondence and intercourse with the Committee have continually cheered them in their work. The aim of all this agency has been to quicken Christians in duty to their own souls and to the perishing, to open new fields for spreading the gos-

pel throughout our country, and by personal intercourse in connection with the Society's publications, to bear its messages to the abodes of the wandering and the lost.

As to the *salaries* of all the laborers employed by the Society, the Committee have ever acted on the principle of expending the Society's means as economically and advantageously as practicable for securing the labor needed, paying each laborer according to the value of his services in promoting the Society's efficiency and usefulness, and his necessary expenses of living ; but with the expectation that all, on the principle of Christian self-denial, will labor for less than they would expect to receive in the common business of life ; and always retaining the services of long-tried and faithful laborers at an increase of salary so far as necessary for their support, rather than allowing them from necessity to retire, at the hazard of employing new men who might prove far less successful.

A specific salary is given to each person employed by the Society, and in some cases when it has been found inadequate, a small additional sum has been allowed for past services. No *perquisites* have ever been allowed to any officer, agent, or colporteur. All monies received are faithfully accounted, and paid out by the direction of the Finance Committee, the bills being signed by the chairman, and presented to the auditors by the treasurer as his vouchers. No officer or agent is allowed to employ the Society's funds in his hands for his own use ; nor has money ever been loaned from the Society's treasury to meet the wishes of any one, whether connected with the Society or among its friends and patrons.

Grants of money, such as the Society's appropriations for foreign and pagan lands, and the purchase of real estate, as the Society's house and lot, are made only by the special act of the Executive Committee, in which Committee the members of the Publishing, Distributing, and Finance Committees are united.

RELATIONS TO KINDRED INSTITUTIONS.

It is a gratifying fact that during the progress of the Society's operations great and favorable changes have been wrought in our country, evidently occasioned in some degree at least through its influence. It is well recollected, that when the Society first issued Baxter's *Saints' Rest and Call*, Doddridge's *Rise and Progress*, and the *Pilgrim's Progress*, a copy of those works could not be found in the bookstores of New York, and the circulation of such religious works in our country generally was very limited. Now not only some

highly respectable booksellers are largely circulating such works, but Boards of Publication in all our prominent religious denominations are engaged in issuing them ; and the style of the printing and engravings of religious works, especially of books and papers for the young, is such as to benefit millions of the rising generation and give joy to every Christian heart. The Committee and executive officers endeavor to cultivate always a spirit of kindness and comity towards all these institutions, regarding none as rivals, cordially bidding all God speed ; and as far as the work is done by others, laboring the more earnestly to extend the usefulness of this Society into the still unreached desolations, and as far as possible to overtake the ever-rolling tide of westward emigration. With all that this and kindred Societies, and that the churches of Christ are doing, error and darkness still prevail in our land beyond all that is known except by actual exploration and the omniscient eye ; and redoubled efforts, faith, and prayer are required in every direction to rescue millions perishing in sin.

QUESTIONS,

PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY, WITH ANSWERS BY THE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

Question 1.—What are the items which enter into the estimate of the cost of the books and publications of the Society ; and what is the principle on which the prices of the publications are fixed ?

Answer.—Understanding by the cost of the publications, the whole outlay, the items are paper, presswork, binding, stereotyping, engraving, maps, copy-right, and all the expenses incidental to preparing, issuing, and circulating them. And the prices are fixed on the principle of selling the publications as low as practicable, consistently with the aim of having returned to the treasury, from such as are sold, essentially the amount expended in issuing them, making the necessary allowances for the discounts to branches and booksellers.

Question 2.—What difference, if any, between the wholesale and retail prices ? If deductions are made from established prices, to whom, and in what amount ?

Answer.—The Committee establish one price only, which is stamped on the back of most of the books ; and a discount is made to booksellers and those who buy to sell again, of twenty per cent. ; to the Maryland Branch at Baltimore, twenty-five per cent. ; and to the American Tract Society at Boston, twenty-seven and a half per cent.

Question 3.—What are the extent, comparative issues, and profits of tracts, books, and periodicals ; and what is the policy of the Society in respect to the proportion of tracts and books published ?

Answer.—The total amount published since the formation of the Society is, 4,220,441,081 pages : of which were tracts, 1,539,180,095 pages ; and books, 2,681,260,986 pages.

The Messenger, Botschafter, and Child's Paper were printed in 1856 to the number of 6,500,700 copies, involving an expenditure, as nearly as can be estimated, of \$51,709 68. The receipts from them were \$50,128 78, showing excess of expenditure of \$1,580 85, which is estimated to be about equal to the gratuitous distribution to for eign missionaries, agents, and others. See Report for 1856, pages 21, 22, 24.

The prices of the publications, both tracts and books, are as stated in answer to question one; it being the object of the Society so to arrange the prices, that the circulation of those sold shall not be a drain on the means of the institution, nor essentially increase them. The Committee have had no policy as to the proportion of books and tracts to be issued except to meet the demand, and to supply all the providential openings for the circulation of both books and tracts.

The system of Colportage, mainly for the circulation of books, has developed the destitution of our country in a remarkable manner, and has thus furnished by its living, visiting agents one of the best means for distributing far and wide the tracts of the Society.

Question 4.—What is the compensation of Colporteurs; and are there any perquisites beyond the allowed salary and travelling expenses; and are there any profits from books, specific contributions, or other funds?

Answer.—One hundred and fifty dollars has been the usual salary of a colporteur, exclusive of travelling expenses. Some have been allowed a larger compensation, either from superior qualifications or long experience in the work, and of late years from the general increased expenses of living. Of those employed in 1856, the salaries of 292 are \$150; of 247, \$200; of 63, \$250; and there were 24 at \$300, laboring mostly in cities, and paying their own board. There are 23 others who combine the duties of colporteurs, superintendents, and collecting agents, to whom somewhat larger salaries are given. There are neither perquisites, profits, nor commissions allowed on sales of publications or collection of funds to any of the colporteurs or agents.

Question 5.—Can colportage be surrendered or left to local or denominational agencies; and to what extent? Why necessary to be conducted by the Society?

Answer.—The Committee respectfully beg leave to decline referring to other agencies having the same benevolent objects in view; but would state that the system of colportage in this country was commenced in 1841, and for several years solely prosecuted by this Society; and as destitute fields have opened to them, they have felt morally bound to occupy them, and so fulfil the obligations for the extension of the work, which the liberal and continued contributions of the Christian public have devolved upon them, and to which, from the catholic character of the Society, it is peculiarly adapted. With all that has been done in the work of colportage, new fields of destitution have been continually brought to light, beyond the ability of the Society to occupy them.

Question 6.—What amount of capital is invested in the book publishing business?

Answer.—As estimated April 1, 1856, the machinery, presses, and materials in the Tract-house, for printing and binding, are *estimated* to be worth for the Society's use, \$66,608; sheet stock, paper, stereotype plates, and engravings, \$111,781, less the amount due for paper, \$10,920 06. The books in the Depository, as per inventory of that date, are *estimated* to have cost \$90,112 87; those in the hands of colporteurs, \$108,257 03; and there was due from auxiliaries and others, \$18,242 85.

Question 7.—What is the profit per cent. upon the capital employed in the publications of the Society, and how appropriated?

Answer.—We refer to the answers to questions 1 and 3, as substantially a reply to the above. The idea of profits has never entered into the calculations of the Committee, and consequently no appropriations of them can be made. All the means of the Society are in active use in its benevolent work, and are often inadequate to its immediate wants.

Question 8.—What public objects are obtained or expected by this book business which would not be realized if the publishing of books were left to private enterprise?

Answer.—The object of the Society in the publication of books is to furnish religious reading for the whole country at the lowest practicable price, and thereby aid in the great work of spreading the gospel among all classes. This aim necessarily differs from a work of private enterprise.

Question 9.—Does the Society compete with individual enterprise, or interfere with the legitimate operations of other societies?

Answer.—The uniform aim of the Society has been to pursue its own appropriate work, and never intentionally to compete with private publishers, or interfere with the operations of other societies.

Question 10.—How are the donations to the Society appropriated and distributed?

Answer.—Donations for specific objects, as for stereotyping and perpetuating books and tracts and furnishing stock for the depository, for which objects more than \$50,000 have been given, and donations for colportage and foreign distribution, have been applied as designated by the donors. Donations not for specific objects have been applied according to the best judgment of the Committee for the gratuitous distribution of publications at home and abroad, for foreign grants of money, and for sustaining colportage and other agencies in carrying out the benevolent operations of the Society.

Question 11.—How are depositories managed? What the expense? Are books sold at them on commission? Are books sold to them for cash, or on credit? Is any profit derived from them, and what? What amount of capital is invested in this branch of business, and from what fund is this capital derived?

Answer.—The Society has no depositories of books to be sold on commission. At seven of the Society's eight colporteur agencies, a stock of books is kept under the care of superintendents for the supply of colporteurs; viz., at Rochester, Philadelphia, Charleston, New Orleans, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Chicago, where books are sold on the same terms as at the Society's house in New York.

Question 12.—What are the salaries of the Tract-house? Have the persons engaged any perquisites beyond their salaries, and what? Ought the salaries to be changed either by increase or diminution?

Answer.—The annexed list gives a complete statement of the salaries. No perquisites have ever been allowed.

Question 13.—Does the Society interfere with other Societies either by occupying their ground, or performing their work, or absorbing funds which should more properly go to them?

Answer.—Never intentionally. The book of printed instructions to agents and colporteurs explicitly cautions them against such interference; and the Committee have endeavored in all their operations to keep within the appropriate sphere of the Society's work.

Question 14.—Who purchases the printing paper and binding materials used in the Society's work, and what rate of commission is paid on the amount of these purchases?

Answer.—Until 1852, the paper was purchased by Mr. R. T. Haines of the Finance Committee, in connection with the Depositary. Since 1852, Mr. O. E. Wood, of the same Committee, aided by the printer, Mr. Brown, and the assistant treasurer, Mr. Kingsbury, has made the purchases of paper.

The materials for binding, engraving, and printing are bought by the gentlemen responsible for these departments of labor.

No commissions at all are paid on any purchases.

[The statements of Salaries and Agencies are here omitted.]

ADDRESSES.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.

REV. HUGH S. CARPENTER'S ADDRESS.

THE vitality and efficiency of any scheme of benevolence must depend upon its conformity to the conditions of the charter under which it is commissioned. That charter is, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." There are therefore three tests of its attainment: 1. How much gospel there is in it; 2. How far it gets on in the world; 3. To what extent it reaches "every creature."

Mr. Carpenter said that he waived any discussion of the first two points; but of the third, the range of this benevolence among all classes, there had been some question. He confessed that, in common with many wiser and more experienced men, he had entertained doubts whether this Society would fearlessly assert the truth, that "God has made of one blood all the nations who dwell upon the face of the earth." He rejoiced that the action this day went so far to dissipate these doubts.

It must be borne in mind that the characteristic of this Society was its gentleness. By this it penetrated the dreary wastes of men, and could reach every condition of life. The snow, if it fell in masses, in grand avalanches, could not reach the forest or cover the orchard but by bruising the herbage and breaking the boughs; but it fell so softly in the gentle snowflakes, as to cover every root evenly, and spread itself in one carpet.

He called attention to the fact that this Society gladdened the most cultivated Christian households, as well as the scenes of destitution. When he saw its books and tracts upon the tables, adding a charm to the fulness of Christian intelligence, it reminded him of the pleasure experienced when you sat under a tree in rural enjoyment, and presently a bird sang in the bough to make the pleasantness pleasanter still. These publications were volunteer songs. Under these circumstances it was perhaps scarcely fair to object to a Society for what it might leave unsaid when it said so much that was good and true. It was not well to look a gift-horse in the mouth.

Mr. Carpenter further dwelt on the commingling of sects in this work, as increasing their common vitality. They are like the ice-cakes which meet and melt together in the river flow. Like them, Christian sects are soluble in the flow of their own substance, changing only their hardness, and retaining all their truth; while as they melt, there drops from each many a pebble, many a boulder, much agglutinated sand, which was only held in their icy grasp.

He closed by an appeal to the Society to reach "every creature," as every creature came before it in the providence of God. It was a Society both of home and foreign supply.

Africa is here, with its jet skin, and its white eyes rolling eagerly. What will you do for Africa? Will you teach it liberty by holding it in bondage? Here is the germ which is to overgrow that land of sorrows, and bid it wave with joy and plenty, like a western prairie. What do you say? Will you keep Africa under the lash and under the heel until it learns to be brave and wise?

Ireland is here. As if a sudden impulse seized the ardent nation, they have rushed hither in a coatless garb, bearing their cabins with them. America has Ireland as England never had: has it in schools and homes. What will you do for Ireland?

And Germany is here, with its eyes misting far away on faderland, and its feet plodding to return.

And China, peering through the palings.

And the red Indian—no, he is not here; he haunts our borders—a spectral warning.

And Israel is here, whole Palestina, waiting to know which nation God shall first employ as carriers to bring his sons from far.

All generations cluster round this Christian land, the home of God's fugitives, the tabernacle of their rest. Here they are to hide; here they are to go to school; here they are to learn the gospel. America must stand up before them in a free pulpit, with an open Bible, and proclaim the truth.

ADDRESS OF DR. D. B. MCARTEE, MISSIONARY IN CHINA.

Dr. McCARTEE said he presented the resolution with great pleasure. Having just returned from China after an absence of fourteen years, he was happy in the opportunity to testify to the cordial appreciation of the labors of the Society, and the gratitude felt by himself and colleagues in the foreign field, for its very valuable assistance in their work.

The operations of the Tract Society are peculiarly adapted to China. The spoken dialects differ so widely, that a missionary speaking fluently the dialect of any one town or city might find it impossible to understand or be understood at a place one hundred and fifty miles distant, even were he not restrained by treaty limitations from travelling further inland than he can go and return in twenty-four hours; whereas the written language being identically the same throughout the empire, the same tract would be intelligible wherever a reader could be found among the three hundred and sixty millions of that ancient and mighty land.

The Chinese are the oldest tract distributors in the world. They have been distributing tracts for centuries upon centuries. Their tracts are to be met with in every part of the country and in every form, from that of the sheet-tract placarded upon the walls, or at the corners of the streets, to the carefully printed volume illustrated with commentary and plates in the highest style of Chinese art. Often have I seen, on entering one of their shops, a pile of tracts lying upon a table in a conspicuous position, and "Please take one" written upon the label attached to them.

The Nankin insurgents have published a large number of doctrinal tracts of their own compilation, and have also republished several Christian tracts written by Dr. Morrison, Dr. Medhurst, and others, which had fallen into their possession. Upon one occasion, when their camp at Chin-kiang-fu was attacked by the imperial fleet in the Yang-tsz-kiang, the insurgents made up a large number of their tracts into packages, placed them upon rafts, and floated them down the river towards their enemies' ships.

The present emperor Hien-fung signalized his accession to the throne by the publication of a tract against depraved sects, numerous editions of which have been scattered broadcast throughout the country.

The famous emperor Khang-hi wrote a tract, called the "Holy Commands," frequently styled by foreigners the "Sacred Maxims," which was republished with a commentary by his son and successor Yung-ching. This is also distributed at

all the examinations for literary degrees throughout the empire; and whenever a magistrate is recommended for promotion, it is necessary to produce certificates from his immediate superiors, testifying that the said magistrate has on the first and fifteenth days of each month read, or caused to be read and explained to the people under his jurisdiction, a section selected from this tract; as directed by law.

Numerous other instances might be adduced to show the importance which has been attached to tracts and tract distribution in China for so many years. I will only add in this connection that extracts and illustrations from the "Almanac of Peace," and from a work on geography by the Rev. R. Q. Way, issued from the Presbyterian mission press at Ningpo, have been introduced into a new edition of a Chinese standard work, called "Maps and Descriptions of Maritime Countries," and the proper credit given to the source from which they were derived.

The Chinese are exceedingly great admirers of our wood-cuts and engravings, particularly such as illustrate the manners and customs of the West. A shop was opened last year at Shanghai, as an experiment, for the sale of Christian tracts and other publications; but it soon became necessary to close it, on account of the *impossibility of supplying the demand*, particularly for those with vignettes or other pictorial illustrations. If tracts, etc., were published in Chinese illustrated with such pictures and cuts as appear in the publications of the American Tract Society, there is no doubt that a part at least of the expense might be defrayed by the proceeds of the sales.

The Chinese therefore are prepared to understand and appreciate in some degree the good intentions of those who come among them distributing tracts; and the missionary with a bundle of tracts in his hand, can safely venture into places and among people where the life of another foreigner would be in imminent peril.

It is but a few years since a party of young Englishmen was set upon and murdered by the inhabitants of a village a short distance from the city of Canton. Some time after this, Mr. Meadows, who resided for many years at the above-named city in the capacity of interpreter in her Britannic majesty's civil service, having learned with surprise that Dr. Ball was in the habit of visiting the neighboring villages with impunity, requested Dr. Ball to allow himself and brother to accompany him in one of his excursions. The request was granted; but the doctor not only prohibited the Messrs. Meadows from carrying firearms, but even required them to leave behind their walking-sticks, filling their pockets with tracts as their only admissible weapons. Upon landing from their boat at a village in the country, they were met by the villagers with violent, opprobrious, and threatening language, and showers of stones; but when Dr. Ball held up a handful of tracts, and proclaimed the nature of his errand, the behavior of the villagers was instantly changed. The party were invited into the houses, refreshments were set before them, and they were treated with cordiality and respect.

In proof that the work of tract distribution is appreciated by our native brethren, I may relate the instance of a young native brother engaged in mercantile pursuits, who coming in found the missionary revising a tract for publication in Chinese, and returning to his lodgings sent a donation of one hundred dollars towards defraying the expense of its publication. Another Christian convert gave up a comfortable situation, bought a pack, and entered upon the laborious and precarious life of a pedlar, that he might thus be better able to spread the knowledge of the gospel of Christ; showing that if means are furnished, men will not be wanting to act as colporteurs in China.

In concluding he would say that if the resolution he had the honor to present were submitted to his brethren in the missionary work in China, he was confident that they would unanimously respond in a resolution thanking the American Tract

Society for the very cordial and efficient aid and encouragement afforded by them in the work of publishing the gospel among the heathen.

Dr. McCartee, at the request of the Secretary, repeated the Lord's prayer in the colloquial dialect of Ningpo.

THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the differences among the various denominations of Protestant Christians, it is pleasant to discern their real oneness in their love for institutions designed to explain, enforce, and promulgate the essential doctrines of Christianity. Such an institution is the American Tract Society, with its various branches. The estimation in which it is held by enlightened men of various names is apparent from the subjoined declarations :

"It is a truly Christian institution, founded on principles and conducted in a spirit I peculiarly love." Hon. William Jay, Protestant Episcopalian.

"There is no benevolent institution that can lie nearer my heart than the American Tract Society." Rev. J. G. Schmucker, D. D., Evangelical Lutheran.

"I can only say, that in my old age, and near my last account, I stand ready to do all in my power to cooperate with your Board in its efforts to promote this precious cause." Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D., Presbyterian.

"An enterprise which I consider second to none of the benevolent objects of the day in which we live." Rev. John Codman, Congregationalist.

"I know of nothing that tends to elevate and bless man for time and for eternity, that this Society does not seek to do for the degraded and the wretched." Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, Protestant Methodist.

"It is a combination of all benevolent agencies." Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, Reformed Dutch Church.

"Over all lands this Society has poured, by the press, millions of streams of light and love. I know of no institution doing so much to fill the vials of incense in the hands of the angel standing by the altar." Rev. Baron Stow, Baptist.

"This institution commends itself to all of us, fellow-citizens, in our civil no less than in our religious relations in the community in which we live." Rev. James Milnor, D. D., Protestant Episcopalian.

"It is a noble enterprise, deserving the hearty encouragement and support of all who seek to promote the cause of Christ's religion among the destitute of our country." Hon. Simon Greenleaf, Protestant Episcopalian.

"I doubt whether in the world, at this time, there exists an organization, the Christian ministry excepted, which is more effective in diffusing a knowledge of the truths of the gospel among all classes of people." Rev. A. Alexander, D. D., Presbyterian.

"I love the Tract enterprise because it is a cause in which evangelical Christians can unite. I hail as an omen of good the establishment of any institution which will bring together Christians of different denominations. Bring them into contact; let them become acquainted with each other; let them mingle their prayers and sympathies; and their prejudices will give way, and they will find that they have the same religion." Rev. Dr. Peck of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Here is a Christian union, not constrained, but free—union from love of the same things—union of mind and of heart. That Christians should be thus united must be "well pleasing" to Him who prayed that his disciples might be one.

G.

Publications of the American Tract Society.

GENERAL SERIES OF TRACTS.

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2 Perché il Paroco vi proibisce di Leggere la Bibbia?	1 ct. 16
3 Il Ritratto di Maria in Cielo	1 ct. 16
4 Il Cieco fatto Veggente	3 cts. 32
5 Il Cattolico Cristiano	2 cts. 27
6 Che Credono i Protestanti?	2 cts. 23
7 Il Cammino Perduto	2 cts. 30

CYMRAEG.

CYFROLAU CYMREIG.

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1 Y Dydd Sabboth.	
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3 Tragwyddoldeb.	
4 Yr Annhebygrwydd.	
5 Wyth o Resymau dros beidio myned i Chwarendai, Rhedogfeydd, &c.	
6 Rhybuddion Ysgrythyrol.	
7 Cofia y Dydd Sabboth i'w Sancteiddio ef.	
8 Yr Enaid yn Dlaw Gwerthfawr.	
9 Gristion, Cofia fod Genyt ti Heddyw, &c.	
10 A Ydwyd ti yn Barod i Farw?	
11 Y mae un Peth Eto yn ol i ti.	
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HOLLANDSCH.

HOLLANDSCHE BOEKEN.

	Pag.	Kat.	Pap.
Eens Christens reize naar de Eeuwigheid	254	25	
Baxter's Roepstem	318	20	
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Het Aankloppen des Heilands aan de Deur des Menschen, door Johannes Gossner	77	10	

ITALIAN TRACTS, 12MO.

1 The Bible above all Price.
2 Life of Col. Gardiner.
3 Subjects for Consideration.
4 Bob the Cabin-Boy.
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7 Common Errors.
8 Christian Truths.
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ITALIAN SERIES, 18MO.

1 Farewell Letter of Rev. Jonas King, D. D.
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5 The Christian Catholic.
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7 The Lost Path.

WELSH.

WELSH VOLUMES.

Baxter's Saints' Rest, 12mo.
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No.	
1	The Cross of Christ.
2	Without Holiness no Man can see the Lord.
3	Rewards of Drunkenness.
4	The Swearer's Prayer.
5	Common Errors.
6	Serious Thoughts on Eternity.
7	James Covey.
8	Amelia Gale.
9	Poor Joseph.
10	The Great Difference.
11	Honesty the Best Policy.
12	Gracious Invitation to Christ.
13	The Way to Heaven.
14	My Own Way.
15	The Act of Faith.
16	The Infidel Reclaimed.
17	A Strange Thing.
18	Quench not the Spirit.

HANDBILLS IN WELSH.

No.	
1	The Sabbath-Day.
2	A Secret to a Sabbath Stroller.
3	Eternity.
4	The Contrast.
5	Eight Reasons for not going to Plays, Races etc.
6	Scripture Admonitions.
7	Remember the Sabbath-day.
8	The Soul a Precious Jewel.
9	Christian, Remember, etc.
10	Art thou Prepared to Die?
11	Yet Lackest Thou one Thing.
12	Facts on Intemperance.

DUTCH.

DUTCH VOLUMES.

Pilgrim's Progress, Part I., 18mo.
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--

HOLLANDSCHE TRAKTAATEN.

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4 De laatste Roeping	4
5 Toespraak aan de Jeugd	8
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7 Wie heeft alle deze Verslagen?	4
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23 Young Cottager.	23

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Danste Bøger.

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Befælsning til Sand Gudsdygtighed	40
Ph. Dobbridge	501
De Helliges evige Hvile, af Richard Baxter	40
En Pilgrims Vandring, af John Bunyan	40
Opfordring til den Uomvendte, af Richard Baxter	15
Den evangeliske Raades-Orden, af David Hollarz	15

DANISH.

DANISH VOLUMES.

Doddridge's Rise and Progress.

Baxter's Saints' Rest.

Pilgrim's Progress.

Baxter's Call to the Unconverted.

Hollarz's Method of Grace.

Danste Trakte. 12mo.

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26 Choice Drop of Honey.	26

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28.	Jonathan Brown en Naabemand	28 Jonathan Brown.
29.	Et Ord bder iffe	29 A Word Dieth Not.
30.	De to Dødsinge	30 The Two Old Men.
31.	Jden og hans Datter	31 The Jew and his Daughter.
32.	Jaarebyrden Joseph	32 Joseph the Shepherd.
33.	Dr. Thomas Bateman's Omvendelse	33 Memoir of Dr. Bateman.
34.	Liv af Pastor Julius Carl Rieu	34 Life of Rev. Charles Rieu.
35.	Er jeg en Synder?	35 Am I Self-deceived?
36.	Byrden	36 Witness of the Spirit.
37.	Christus og de to Røvere	37 Christ and the Two Thieves.
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39.	Om Omvendelse til Kristus	39 Conversion to Christ.
40.	Daglejrens Datter	40 Dairyman's Daughter.
41.	Den syge og fattige William	41 William Churchman.
42.	James, den fortabte og igjendfundne Søn	42 The Gulf Stream.
43.	Dødsloffen	43 The Funeral Bell.
Danst A.-B.-C.-Bog. 18mo, 3 Cents		18 First Lessons, 18mo, 3 cents.

Swenst.

Swenska Bster.

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SWEDISH.

SWEDISH VOLUMES.

Baxter's Saints' Rest.
Pilgrim's Progress.

Baxter's Call.

James' Anxious Inquirer, 18mo.
Come to Jesus.

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2. Vägen till Himmelen	4	2
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11. Hufvudfrågan besvarad	24	11
12. Den älsfamsvärda Louisa	12	12
13. I Dag	8	13
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16. Hvad är en wärlig och sann Christendom, enligt Jesu Christi och hans Apostlars lära?	12	16
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18. Om den sanna omvändelsen	8	18
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21. Liden och Ewigheten	8	21
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SWEDISH TRACTS, 12MO.

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2	The Way to Heaven.	2
3	The Swearer's Prayer.	3
4	Do you want a Friend?	4
5	James Covey.	5
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12	Amiable Louisa.	12
13	To-Day.	13
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15	Rewards of Drunkenness.	15
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27	The Act of Faith.	27
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HUNGARIAN TRACTS.

Sz.	Pages.	No.
1 Az úr Napja	4	1 The Lord's Day.
2 A Megterezöl	4	2 Necessity of Repentance.
3 Szabados Váratnapon	4	3 Warning to Sabbath-breakers.

HUNGARIAN HANDBILL.

At's Parancs Feltatata.

Ten Commandments and Lord's Prayer.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be denominated the AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, the object of which shall be to diffuse a knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Redeemer of sinners, and to promote the interests of vital godliness and sound morality, by the circulation of Religious Tracts calculated to receive the approbation of all evangelical Christians.

ARTICLE II. Any person paying twenty dollars at one time into the Treasury of this Society, shall be a Member for Life; and any person paying fifty dollars at one time, or who shall, by one additional payment, increase his original contribution to fifty dollars, shall be a Director for Life.

ARTICLE III. Persons constituted members of the Society by donations not designated by them to be applied to specific objects, shall be annually entitled to Tracts to the value of one dollar, and persons so constituted Directors to the value of two dollars; or, if preferred, they may receive tracts at any one time to the value of half the sum given.

ARTICLE IV. The Society shall meet annually, on Wednesday immediately preceding the second Thursday in May, when the proceedings of the foregoing year shall be reported, and a Board, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretaries, a Treasurer, two Auditors, and thirty-six Directors shall be chosen.

ARTICLE V. The Board of Directors shall annually elect, by ballot, a Publishing, a Distributing, and a Finance Committee, each consisting of not less than three, nor more than six members; the members of which three Committees shall constitute an Executive Committee to conduct the business of the Society, and shall be, ex-officio, members of the Board. The Board shall have power to enact By-Laws, and to appoint Honorary Vice-Presidents, Directors, or Members. Twelve members of the Board, present at any meeting regularly convened, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VI. To promote in the highest degree the objects of this Society, the Officers and Directors shall be elected from different denominations of Christians; the Publishing Committee shall contain no two members from the same ecclesiastical connection; and no Tract shall be published to which any member of that Committee shall object.

ARTICLE VII. Any Tract Society, formed on the principles of this Society, and annually contributing a donation to its Treasury, shall be considered an Auxiliary; and the President and Secretary of such Auxiliary for the time being, shall be, ex-officio, members of this Society.

ARTICLE VIII. That the benefits of the Society may be enjoyed no less in distant places than near the seat of its operations, the prices of its tracts shall be, as far as practicable, the same in all parts of the United States.

ARTICLE IX. All meetings of the Society, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, shall be opened by prayer.

ARTICLE X. The President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, or other Officer first on the list in the city of New York, at the request of five Directors, may call special meetings of the Board of Directors, causing three days' notice of such meetings to be given. The Board of Directors shall have power to call special meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE XI. This Constitution shall not be altered, except at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; notice of the proposed alteration having been given at the previous annual meeting.

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CONSTITUTION OF AN AUXILIARY TRACT SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called "THE [FEMALE OR JUVENILE] TRACT SOCIETY OF _____ AUXILIARY TO THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY;" the object of which shall be to promote the circulation of that Society's publications in this vicinity, and to aid in extending its operations to the destitute in our own and foreign lands.

ART. II. All persons annually contributing to the funds of the Society, whether for publications or as a donation, or both, shall be members.

ART. III. The Society shall hold its annual meeting on the _____ in _____ when a Board, consisting of a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and _____ members, shall be chosen to conduct the business of the Society until a new election.

ART. IV. It shall be the duty of the Board, at their discretion, to establish a Depository, procure volumes, and direct their circulation by sale, loan, or gift; appoint a Superintendent, and select Tracts for systematic monthly distribution; and assign to members of the Board and of the Society their respective duties in obtaining subscriptions and promoting the usefulness of the Society. They may call special meetings of the Society, and fill their own vacancies. Three shall constitute a quorum.

ART. V. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings of the Society and the Board, notify meetings, and prepare the Annual Report; and also to communicate to the American Tract Society a notice of the formation of this Auxiliary, an abstract of the Reports annually presented, with a list of the officers elected, and such evidences as may be known of the usefulness of the Society's publications.

ART. VI. The Treasurer shall report the state of the Treasury at every meeting of the Board; and shall, as early as practicable, remit the funds to the Treasurer of the Parent Institution, and procure and deliver the publications ordered.

ART. VII. Meetings of the Society shall be opened by prayer.

ART. VIII. This Constitution may be altered by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any meeting of the Society regularly convened.

[] The *packets of Tracts and Children's Tracts* at 25 and 12½ cents each, and any of the Society's volumes, are convenient for supplying members of Auxiliaries.

PLAN OF A TRACT DEPOSITORY.

The following individuals, [gentlemen or ladies,] viz. _____ having consented to act as the Board of a Depository of the publications of the American Tract Society for the _____ of _____, the undersigned cordially approving the evangelical and catholic spirit of that Society, and wishing to benefit the population in our own vicinity by the circulation of its Tracts and volumes, and to that end to establish among us a permanent Depository of the same, give the sums affixed to our respective names, to be employed by the said Board as follows: viz.

The Board shall have power to arrange for establishing a Depository, make purchases of publications, conduct the sales, and transact all business which they shall judge necessary to promote its highest usefulness.

They shall elect their own Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer; fill all vacancies occurring in their own number; call meetings of the subscribers when they shall judge it to be desirable; report their proceedings at every meeting of the subscribers; and shall continue in office until, at any meeting of the subscribers duly convened, a new election shall be made.

Meetings of the subscribers shall be called by the Board or their Chairman whenever any three subscribers shall request the same in writing, and shall be opened with prayer.

The American Tract Society establish no Depositories owned by the Institution, but are ready to aid Auxiliaries and friends at any important commercial centre, or elsewhere, in establishing one to be owned by those among whom it is located.

One obstacle to the management of a Depository has been the expense and inconvenience of a *case* in which all the Tracts could be arranged; and another, the time requisite for selling Tracts in small quantities. These objections do not apply to the Society's *Volumes*—certainly not to its *Libraries*; and in respect to the pamphlet Tracts, they may now be obviated by obtaining the *Packets of Tracts and Children's Tracts*, price 25 and 12½ cents, which may be conveniently sold unbroken by almost any bookseller or trader.

A few enterprising individuals, male or female, whether connected with an Auxiliary Society or not, may associate, raise a small fund, and thus bring the Society's publications within the reach of the population around them.

NEW VOLUMES AND TRACTS.

A notice of those issued the past year will be found on pages 14 to 19, and a complete list of the Society's publications at the close of this document.

PRICES OF TRACTS.

All duodecimo Tracts (each cover being counted as 4 pages) are sold at 15 pages for a cent.

To find the value of a given number of pages, deduct $\frac{1}{2}$, and the remainder is the value in mills, thus :	$\left. \begin{array}{r} 3)1,500 \text{ pages.} \\ 500 \\ \hline 1,000 \text{ mills or} \\ 1 \text{ dollar.} \end{array} \right\}$	To find how many pages a given sum will purchase, add $\frac{1}{2}$, and annex a cypher, thus :	$\left. \begin{array}{r} 2) \$1 \ 00 \\ 50 \\ \hline 1,600 \text{ pages.} \end{array} \right\}$
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Discounts are made only to Branches owning Depositories, subjecting them to expense for freight, rent, or agency, and to traders who buy to sell again.

ILLUSTRATED FAMILY CHRISTIAN ALMANAC FOR 1858.

This Almanac, comprising 60 handsomely printed pages, has been prepared with ability and care. It contains a rich variety of reading for old and young, with useful statistical information, and is illustrated with beautiful engravings.

It contains four Calendars complete, calculated for Boston, New York, Baltimore, and Charleston, and adapted to the four parallels of latitude from those cities to the Pacific Ocean, with calculations of eclipses for all the principal towns, and is fitted for use in all parts of the United States. Price, 6 cents single; \$1 50 per 100; \$30 per 1,000. Traders in all parts of the country, may order large or small quantities.

LIFE DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS.

The donation of \$20 at one time constitutes a Life Member; the addition of \$30, or \$50 at one time, a Life Director. Life Members constituted such by donations not designated by them to be applied to specific objects, may receive annually 1,500 pages of tracts, or volumes to the value of \$1, if applied for within the year; Life Directors to the value of \$2; and may draw them from the Depository of any Branch or Auxiliary, the Agent thereof charging them to the parent Society without discount. Colporteurs are not authorized to supply Life Members. \$4 a page, including the cover, perpetuates a Tract; \$3 a page, a 12mo volume; \$2 50, an 18mo volume of less than 200 pages; \$2, an 18mo of more than 200 pages.

THE AMERICAN MESSENGER.

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Remittances of funds may be addressed to Mr. O. R. KINGSBURY, *Assistant-Secretary and Treasurer of the American Tract Society*, No 150 Nassau-street, New York, and other communications as on second page of this cover. The name of the Society or individual making remittances, and of the town, county, and state where they are located, and also the sum intended as a donation, or as a remittance for publications, should be accurately specified in writing. Funds designed for the parent Society should be forwarded by the *earliest* opportunity, that they may not lie useless when much needed for sustaining the Society's operations.

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